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Making it as a magician — The peddler of background music

The questionable choice for Public Defender

Ann Arbor Observer

April, 1980 Vol. IV No. 8

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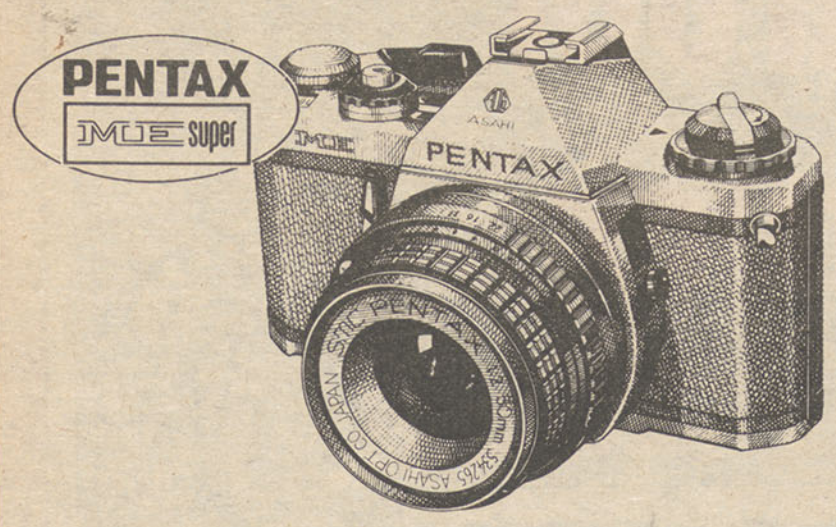

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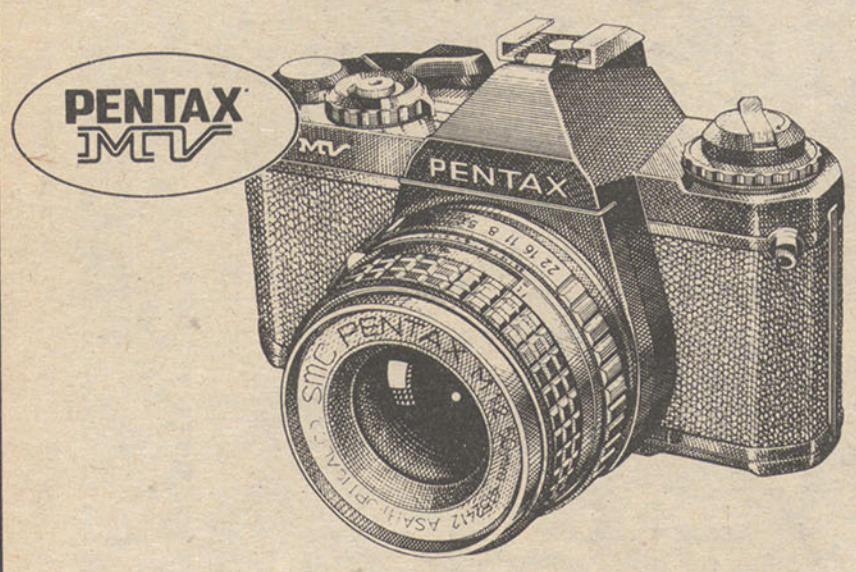

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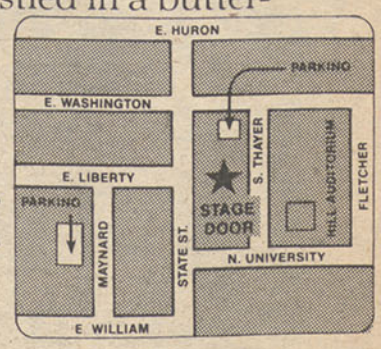

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Ann Arbor Observer

April, 1980

Drawing of Washtenaw's neon strip by Doug Kassabaum.

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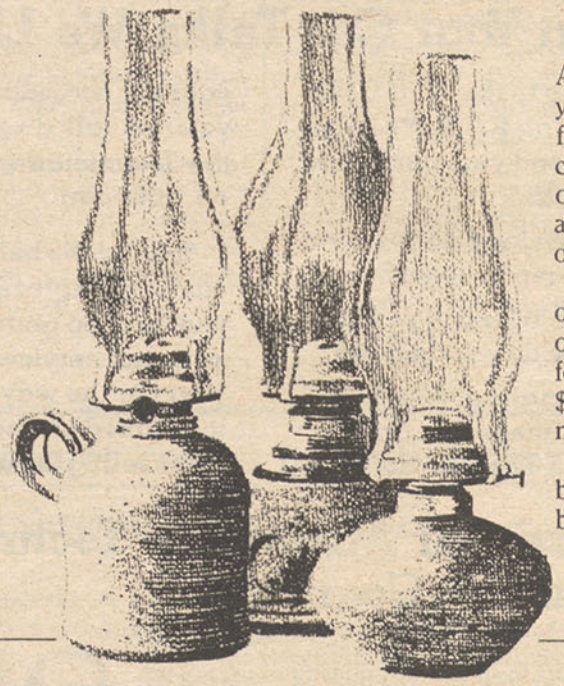

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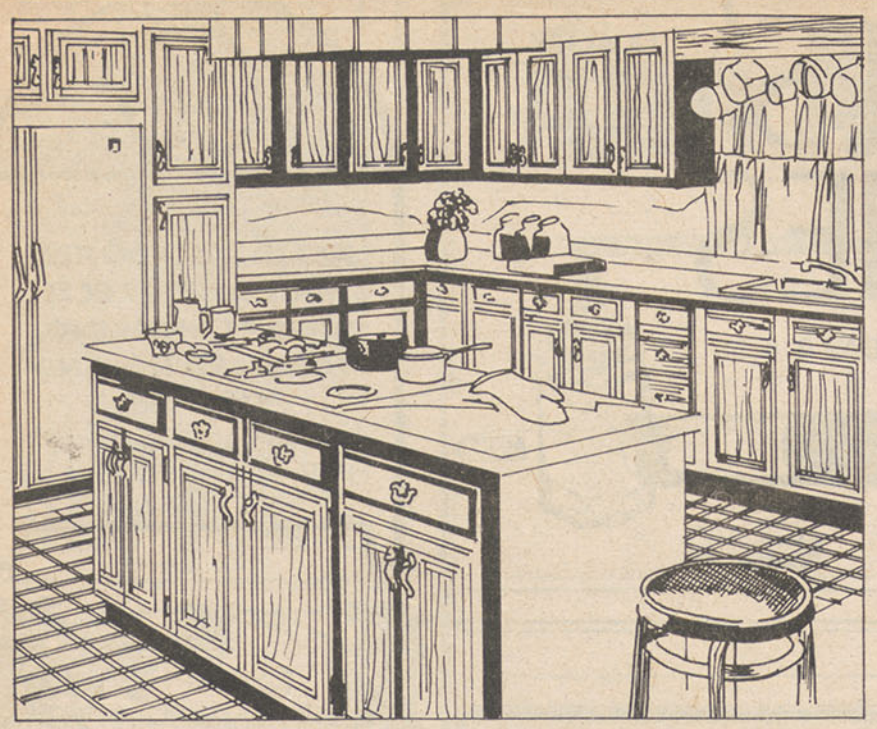

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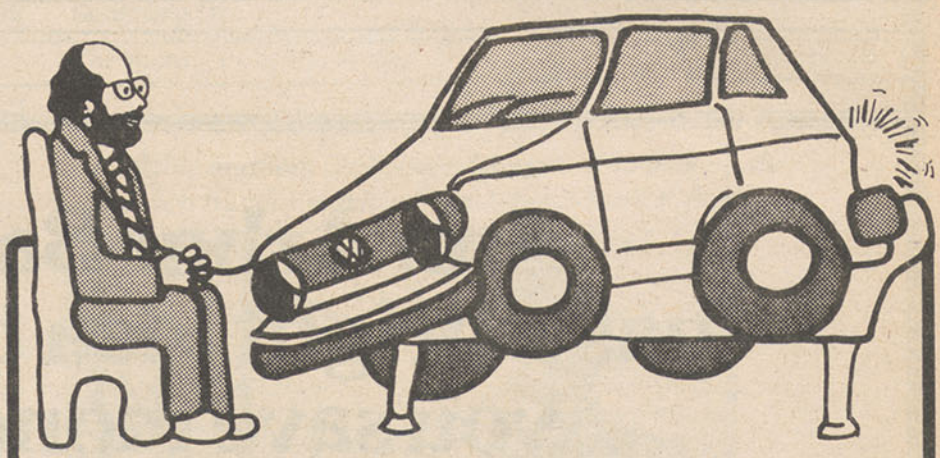

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AROUND TOWN

The Red Giant transformed

A once-shady Ann Arbor rental agency tries to improve its reputation.

Dave Angelo of Central Rental has become a very defensive fellow lately. He's taken over the infamous Red Giant apartment rental agency on Pauline Avenue, which his cousin Dave Wolz left him after skipping town late last February. Red Giant had been under fire from a bevy of angry customers and an angrier attorney general. Now that Angelo has been trying to improve the reputation of his business, it frustrates him to keep seeing people come in the door and gawk as if they were seeing evil incarnate.

Trouble began to mount up some months ago when Red Giant customers were complaining to the Washtenaw Consumer Action Center that the company's list of apartment and home rental openings, for which they had paid a non-refundable $45, was useless. They charged that the supposed insider's leads of new vacancies brought them to places that were already rented, or worse, places that had never been available. One customer was so mad that he formed an identical — but far more helpful — operation in Ypsilanti, calling it "Rent Ease." Consumer Action began scrutinizing Red Giant and cousin Dave Wolz more and more. In February, Attorney General Frank Kelley stepped into the picture by obtaining a temporary restraining order against further openings of Red Giant franchises in the state. What's more, he's filing a suit of fraud against the Florida-based Red Giant franchisor. Although not named as a defendant in the suit, Wolz left Red Giant and Ann Arbor, too. Angelo says he's not sure, but he believes Wolz went back to his home town of Chicago.

In the meantime, 33-year-old Angelo, an unmarried man who lives in a downtown apartment he helped himself find, has been drawing upon his beginner's knowledge of the business to make some changes. Immediately upon taking over, he gave refunds to three of the more disgruntled customers, which pleased Consumer Action. Angelo also made a significant change in company practice, he says, by stressing that there is no "magical guarantee" the customers will find satisfactory quarters.

As the new boss, one thing Angelo has found is that he's working seven days a week, 7 AM to 10 PM, sometimes bunking over at the office when he's too tired to take a cab home. He's hired four more employees and set up a "service line" that customers can call for updates on Central's listings (500 to 600 in number).

For a man who had worked for years in a small metal parts shop in Chicago, entering a business that involves people was a welcome change for the congenial Angelo.

"I had these people who had trouble finding a place because they had a dog. They weren't worried about the rent, they just wanted to keep their dog. So I called one last landlord — a guy who said 'no pets' — and I asked him, 'Hey, if they would go up $25, would you accept a dog?' It worked."

Angelo, with a tentative wave of the hand, assuredly looks to the future. "Things are beginning to look up. I expect business to grow.

"But people still call up and say, 'This isn't Red Giant, is it?' I just wonder how long it's gonna take for our new rep to get around."

Sabena Airlines comes to Ann Arbor

A help for the slumping local hotel business.

In the hotel business there's a great deal of prestige attached to housing international airline crews. Barbara Curl, the Campus Inn's general manager, is delighted that Sabena, the Belgian airline which initiates a daily Detroit to Brussels flight this month, is domiciling its crew at her hotel. Sabena's business is especially welcome because Ann Arbor's conference business is now falling off, after ten years of steady growth. In the last three months, occupancy rates have dropped 6 to 18 percent in the city hotels and motels, Curl said, as tight budgets have forced many organizations to cancel conferences. Campus Inn's contract with Sabena means that 25 Sabena people will stay in Ann Arbor each night — 9% of the hotel's total occupancy.

The Sabena flight is Detroit's first direct connection with continental Europe. The governor has proclaimed April 7 Sabena Day, and State Street stores will welcome the airline with special window displays.

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USPS 454-470

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ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ann Arbor's Community Development Office presents the April schedule of CDBG* Citizen Advisory Committee meetings. There are three Neighborhood Strategy Area Committees, (Northside, Central and Southeast) and an Executive Committee for city-wide activities. Some committee meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at the new Fire Hall and are open to the public. Call our office at 994-2912 to verify dates and agendas.

MEETING DATES

April 8 - Central NSA Meeting - 7:30 Fire Hall
Agenda: parks, street decisions, innovative grants, community energy conservation.
Northside NSA Meeting - 7:30 Fire Hall
Agenda: park decision
Southeast NSA Meeting - 7:30 Bryant School
Agenda: park decision
April 21 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:30 Fire Hall
Agenda: public service study session, innovative grant recommendations, physical improvements, recommendations
April 22 - Joint NSA Meeting - 7:30 Fire Hall
Agenda: energy planning programs

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*Community Development Block Grants are authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended.

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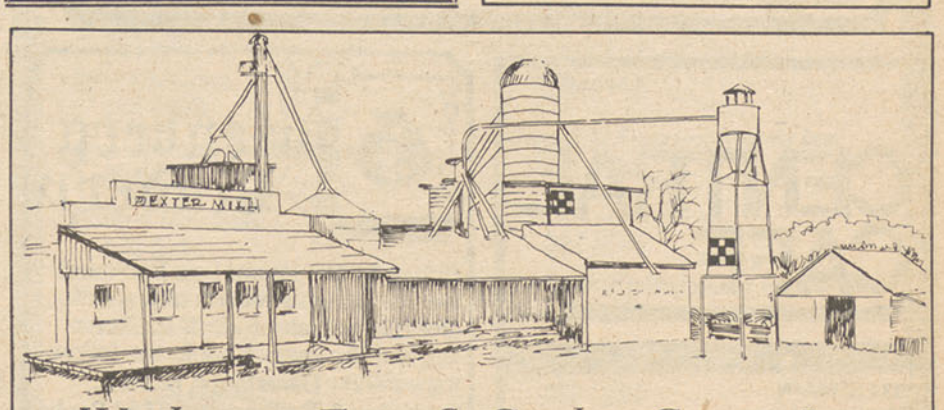

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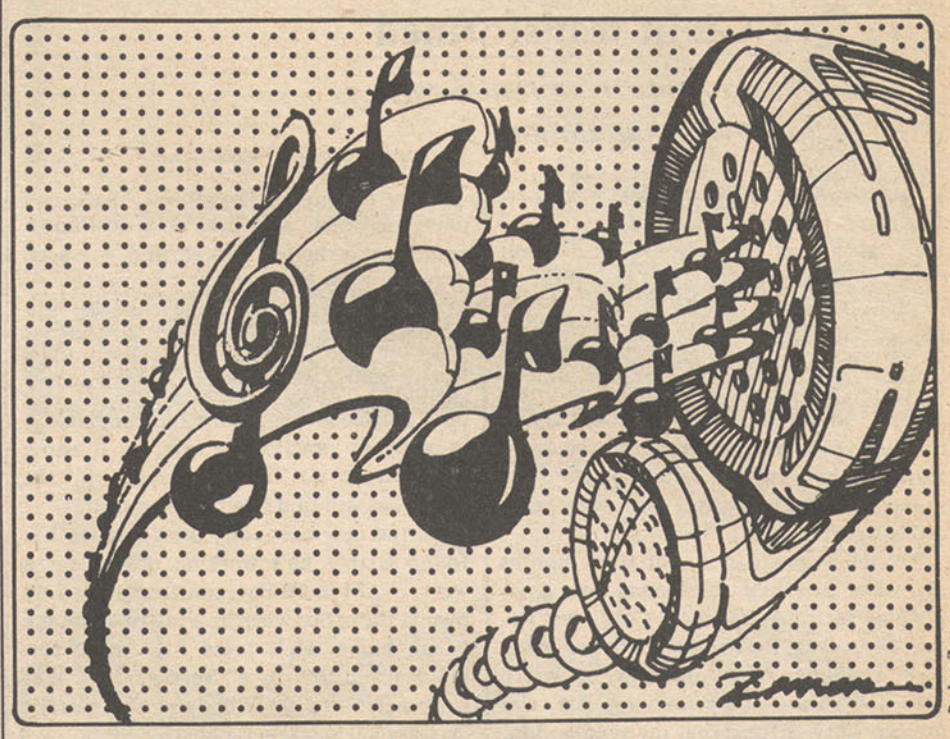

Rodger Zeman

The many functions of background music

One way or another, John Behrendt is trying to manipulate your mood.

Background music, we've noticed, is gaining a firmer foothold in Ann Arbor. Recorded music forms the backdrop in restaurants and shops, and sometimes now even when put on hold on the telephone.

Recently we had a chance to talk to a purveyor of background music, and the very energy with which he sings the virtues of his product may help explain why silence is an ever rarer phenomenon these days in Ann Arbor. His name is John Behrendt, manager of Sound Engineering in Livonia. Mr. Behrendt runs a successful background music company, having installed more than 4000 systems in the Detroit area, including the entire Renaissance Center system. His Ann Arbor clients include Krogers, Frank's Nursery, the Holiday Inn West, Win Schulers, the Campus Inn, and the Pretzel Bell.

When talking about his product, Mr. Behrendt waxes with the enthusiasm of the musical instrument salesman in *The Music Man*. "Musical Hold is going to be very, very big. You'll see. Background music is our main business. With our seven different modes, like 'Up-tempo,' 'Variety,' and 'Smooth,' we can make a long wait in a doctor's office seem short or stimulate sales in a supermarket,"he explained. "We can keep turnover quick in a fast food restaurant. Their managers will tell you, that second cup of coffee can kill them! So you play music programmed to make that happen. It works psychologically."

And what about musical hold, we asked? "Musical Hold is our newest service. It's what I call in the bud stage, just catching on in a big way. Holds are getting longer, and background music lets people know they're still conencted. We can insert messages in the tape with our Message Repeater. A voice comes on saying, "You will be helped," or a travel agency can put in a message about travel specials. You, the customer, *have* to listen because on hold you are a captured audience! D'you ever think of that?

"For efficiency in the work place, we time background tapes to run eighty minutes without interruption, alternating with twenty minutes of silence. It's been scientifically proved. The mind needs a rest after eighty minutes!

"Sacred music is very big in the south. They play Sacred in shopping malls down there. We use Sacred in hospital chapels and funeral homes. It's a lot nicer than listening to people crying." With barely a pause, Mr. Behrendt continued his litany on the virtues of background music. "You see, music masks other sounds. Say you're on a shopping spree with your girl friend and you're just talking with her, like in a store. Do you want everybody to run around and listen to you? Or you're manager of a food store and somebody comes in to complain about a bad chicken they bought. You sure don't want *that* conversation overheard! Maybe your shoes squeak in a public place. Isn't that embarrassing?

"We have twenty-seven background tapes for sale, each running uninterrupted for sixteen hours — seven hundred selections. All royalties are prepaid. And we have new music for lease — Billboard Magazine's Top Forty with the original artists. We pay the royalties every month.

"We've got an Irish tape for St. Patrick's Day and five Christmas tapes — pure and mixed. We've got a tape to keep dogs quiet in kennels. It just sounds like music to you and me, but it's recorded between 0 and 20,000 cycles, instead of the normal 2,000 to 12,000 cycles. Dogs can hear the whole range and it soothes them.

"You got a restaurant? Just tell us what it is — Italian, Bavarian, Polynesian. You name it, we can give it enchantment. Enchantment is where 3-M Sound Products is at!"

Help for piano dropouts

A special course aids fallen musicians.

There are thirty million pianos in the U.S., but nowhere near that many players, according to a recent study. Now there is hope. "How to Play the Piano Despite Years of Lessons" is a 16-hour course which teaches adults how music is made so they can make their own music. Students are taught how to take a melody and play it a variety of ways: folk, rock, jazz, swing, or whatever. They learn to arrange and enrich a song beyond the sheet music.

The course was first offered last fall by the U-M Extension Service through its University Courses in Adult Education program. Word of the course spread quickly, with inquiries coming from as far away as California. A new session begins April 21.

"How to Play the Piano Despite Years of Lessons" was developed four years ago by the Piano Consortium, a New York-based, nonprofit organization, as a result of a Rockefeller Foundation study. The new teaching method was developed to bring piano dropouts back to the keyboard.

According to Ann Arbor course instructor Mary Shaw Bates, who holds a U-M masters in piano performance, most of her students have had some background in classical music but became disenchanted with lessons because of the tedium from hours of practicing scales.

"The most exciting thing to me is that I can take a melody and improvise as I go along. By understanding the structure, I can play a piece beyond the intermediate level," said Lynne Gulick, who had two years of piano lessons more than ten years ago. "This is worth a whole lifetime of lessons."

For further information on upcoming piano classes, contact the U-M Extension Service, 412 Maynard St.; phone 763-4321.

The dropouts' teacher: Mary Shaw Bates

Passing the hat for Legal Aid

Fund-raising, not legal work, is becoming an ever-larger part of director Roger Chard's job.

Representing the city's poor for fourteen years, Legal Services on North Fourth Avenue has lately begun to resemble the poor themselves. Inflation has devoured much of Legal Aid's funds, forcing the office to do what the poor have often been accused of doing — looking for extra money on the side.

The federal government, which created the national Legal Services projects, gives Ann Arbor's office $420,000 a year. But according to director Roger Chard, that's only 55% of Legal Aid's needs. He's not hopeful that the government will increase its funding by more than its annual 6% raise, less than a third of the current inflation rate. Meanwhile, Chard and other staff lawyers, when they could be spending most of their time on cases as they're supposed to, devote much of it to canvassing local service organizations for support. In 1979 Legal Aid signed up sixteen organizations, whose support ranged from $1,000 to $57,000.

But it's still not enough. The office, a converted old house behind Kerrytown, is understaffed and underequipped. Chard says the few lawyers are so heavily tied up that the time between a new client's intake interview and next appointment is sometimes a matter of weeks. The eighteen lawyers handle about 6,000 cases a year. To hinder them further, the research and writing that make up so much of a case are especially time-consuming at Legal Aid, Chard says, because the library is inadequate. More than a few of the books bought are used, — and word-processing equipment for copying briefs and documents is obsolete.

As much as Chard is glad to receive local support, he points out that it's not all roses. Many of the organizations demand that their money go toward specific services — most commonly, representing the ethnic or social group the organization represents. Reporting back to those funding them is almost as time-consuming as the canvassing, Chard adds. Some want reports every month. Some want to know how many hours the lawyers spend on a certain kind of client, such as the elderly. Some even want check numbers on the statement of expenditures. Comments Chard, "With these organizations, you really have to pause and think whether it's worth renewing them again."

But the reams of paperwork notwithstanding, Chard says he'll continue canvassing for more support. Like his low-income clients, he finds it's the only way to keep up.

It was Legal Aid's "political focus" that originally attracted Chard, who is blind. After he graduated from the U-M Law School in 1972, he turned down positions with corporate law firms and came to the office seven years ago, intent on giving the poor good representation. He finds himself now having less and less time to work as a lawyer. "I'm always jumping to arrange more contracts. It's become such a large part of my job," he shrugs. "I have another meeting tonight."

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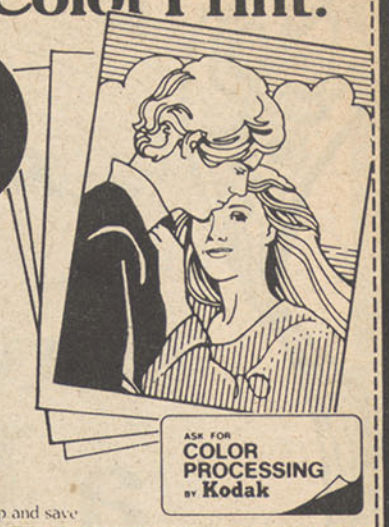

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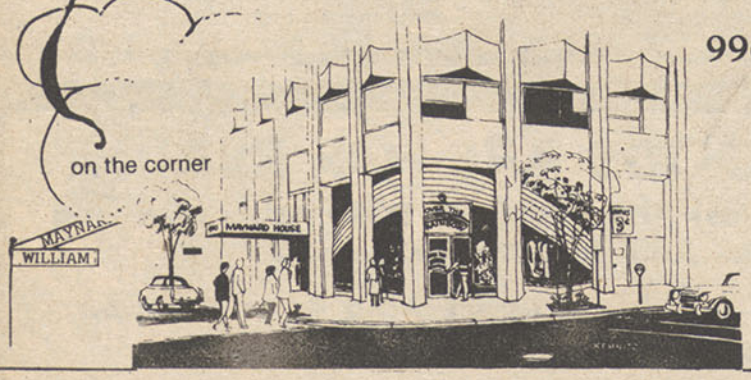

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AROUND TOWN/continued

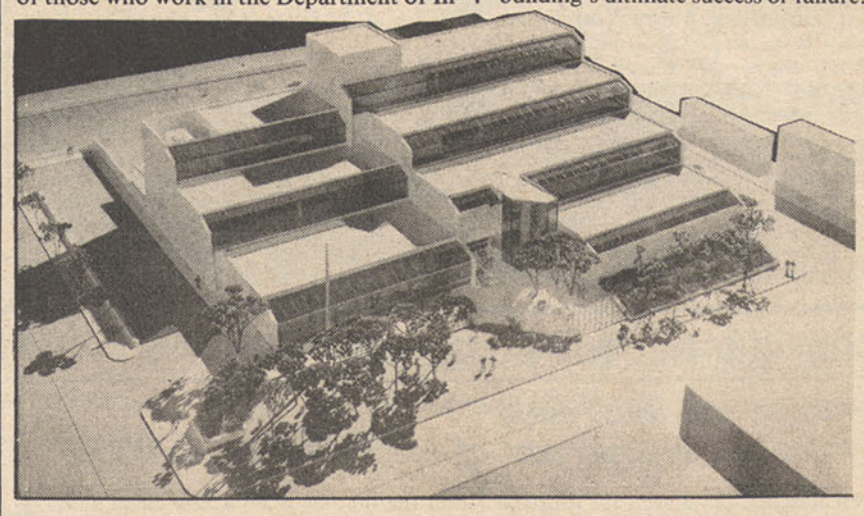
Beautiful from the outside, but . . .

Ann Arbor's Federal Building earns poor marks for functionality.

After Ann Arbor's Federal Building on Liberty was completed in 1977, it got raves from architects who admired its interesting design. To date, the building has won awards from the Michigan Society of Architects and the American Institute of Architects.

But these awards were based primarily on design, not what it's like to work in the building. A study by U-M architecture professor Robert Marans reveals that many of these workers don't share such positive feelings about their work space. Some 70% of those who work in the Department of Interior office find the building a fair to poor place to work. About half of the Weather Service and IRS workers shared this low opinion of their work space. Major causes of dissatisfaction were the lack of conversational and visual privacy; ventilation and heating problems; and problems with the location and numbers of electrical outlets.

Few architects try to evaluate the success of a building based on its occupants' satisfaction with their work space. Marans hopes this type of study will sensitize architects to this more functional aspect of a building's ultimate success or failure.



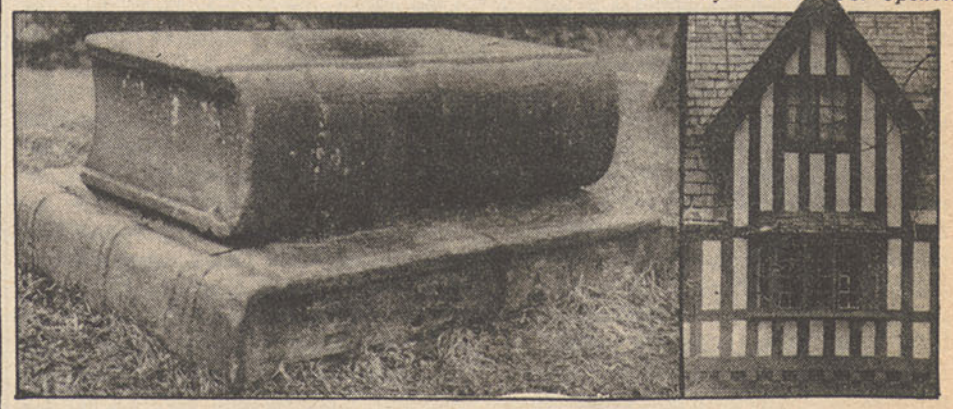
The Federal Building on East Liberty: a prize-winning but criticized design by Tarapata MacMahon Paulsen Associates of Bloomfield Hills.

Test of the Town

The present location of this month's mystery object is not where it's been most of its existence. If you know where it is, you could win a record of your choice from the Liberty Music Shop, 417 East Liberty. Mail your answer postmarked by April 8 to Ann Arbor Observer "Test of the Town," 206 S. Main, Ann Arbor, 48104. Hand deliveries must be disallowed, and we are unable to respond to all entrants. Two winners will be selected by lot and notified by mail.

Last month's winners were Kevin Tamaki and Vicki Porter-Fink. They knew that the half-timbered Tudor gable was that of the Psi Upsilon fraternity, 1000 Hill. Fraternity alums Jeff Colton and Larry Couen report that the building was designed over 50 years ago by Albert Kahn, famed for his industrial architecture. "It is built like a fortress (needed to withstand 50-plus years of fraternity life) and beautifully finished with wood paneling and carved plaster ceilings," Colton writes. "On the gable to the right of the one shown sits an owl, symbolic in fraternity lore, which watches and guards the house. The second floor suite (bedroom and sitting room) with the bay windows was known as the "Bay Room" and was usually sought after. When I lived there it had a beautiful view of Haven Street, which the University rudely interrupted with a large parking structure adjacent to the Business School."—*Bob Breck*

April's mystery photo



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Nervous owners guard their silver

Strategies abound for foiling thieves.

There's more to taking care of your sterling silver these days than just polishing it for company and keeping it out of the garbage disposal. With the price of silver up dramatically in recent months, a full set of silverware is now often worth thousands of dollars. So people who own sterling are putting time, effort, and money into protecting it. The more than twenty recent robberies of silver in Ann Arbor have thrown owners of the precious metal into increasing panic, lending credence to the notion that expensive possessions and serenity do not mix.

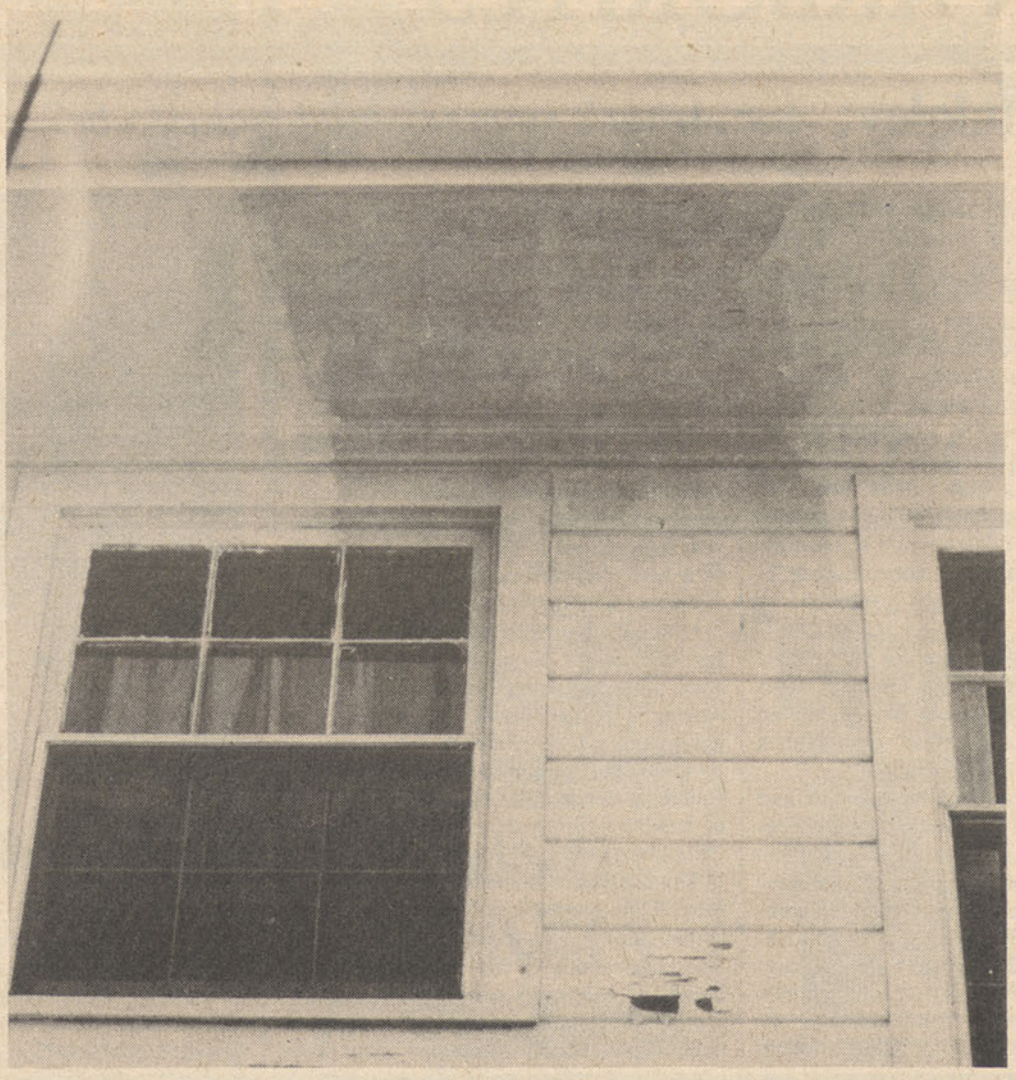
One nervous Ann Arbor woman we know had her silver appraised and found that it was worth close to ten thousand dollars. She told us, "I decided to hide the things all over the house. 'Let them struggle to find it if they come in here to rob us,' I thought to myself. Now, though, when I want to use some of it, I can't remember all the places I hid it."

Another person we talked to had more foresight. She made up a map which showed the locations of all the places she had squirreled away pieces of sterling.

"Those metal detectors the robbers use won't do them any good in our house," adds another Ann Arborite. "I've got the stuff hidden behind golf clubs, behind the hot water heater, and in a metal filing cabinet. That ought to confuse them," she concluded with satisfaction. (Major Raymond Woodruff of the Ann Arbor Police Department doesn't believe the rumor that silver thieves use metal detectors in searching a house for gold and silver. He points out that a house has so much metal in it a detector would be ineffective.)

"I looked into home safes," another woman said. "Even Vogel's deluxe $700 model only measures 10" x 12" x 24". That only takes care of our flatware. What about punchbowls and candlesticks and tea services and trays?"

Vogel's Locksmiths reports they can't keep home safes in stock. The best kinds — set in concrete and with a burglarproof "lock and relock" device — cost between $250 and $700. You have to hire a mason to to install them. The Cold War pessimists who built bomb shelters twenty or so years ago turn out to be in luck in the present home security crisis. No one knows how many bomb shelters were built at that time, not even the Office of Civil Preparedness, but it's probable that Ann Arbor has a good many. We easily found out about seven in the course of two telephone calls. Some owners of shelters are converting them into vast burglarproof vaults by purchasing a steel door so unbreachable that only an acetylene torch can get through it. It's the same door the Army uses to secure stocks of ammunition. Installed at the entrance, it turns a bomb shelter into a huge walk-in safe. The door costs $500 plus installation. Because shelters are dry and ventilated, valuable paintings and oriental rugs can be safely stored in them with the silver and gold jewelry, right alongside the jugs of water, cases of baked beans, and other survival gear. Owners of bomb shelters so converted can wait out a nuclear accident or war in considerable style, surrounded by beautiful things.



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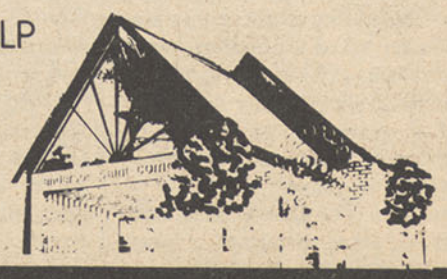

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ANN ARBORITES

Chris Midgley: *Ann Arbor's youngest millionaire-to-be?*

On a recent sunny Sunday afternoon the polyphonic rock melodies of the Pink Floyd band floated out of an upstairs room in the yellow brick office building on East University between Ann Arbor Bank and the Falafil Palace restaurant. In that music-filled room, Chris Midgley, the nineteen-year-old founder and president of Datalab Inc., zeroes in on the keyboard of his MIME-I computer terminal.

A slender young man with a red sweat band holding shoulder-length brown hair out of his eyes, Midgley wears a comfortable corduroy shirt over a Jackson Hole T-shirt. Clear-eyed and self-possessed, he shows us around Datalab's rented three-room suite — a bare-bones but neat office-workshop where homemade plywood tables are strewn with computers, terminals, and mammoth blue and white plastic disk packs.

"I really like starting a business and making it go," Midgley says enthusiastically. As Datalab's head, he manages a crew of four high school computer buffs who help produce and sell computer accessories like floppy disks and ribbons. Midgley and a sidekick design computer programs, the heart of the business. Although his computer firm is less than two years old, he aims to do a million dollars worth of business in the near future.

Chris Midgley has been putting in ten to twelve hour workdays, Sundays included, almost from the moment he first walked into Community High's computer lab at age thirteen and became fascinated with the world of data processing. "Before that, I was into magic," he says.

Teacher Ed Herstein offered an open-ended learning program where experimentation and discussion sometimes lasted into the night. Midgley spent much of his four-year high school career working from 6 PM to 6 AM at U-M terminals whose daytime operators were home at rest.

Graduating in 1978, he turned his back for the moment on a U-M letter of acceptance and talked his parents into underwriting a small business where he could design and market computer programs. After a promising eighteen months, he has found two additional backers with visions of making a killing in the highly competitive computer field.

The firm's first major product is an eight-inch, $250 magnetic disk that looks like a brown phonograph record without grooves. The disk contains the magnetized commands of Midgley's word processing program EDITIT and lets small businesses turn their Alpha Micro computers into fancy electronic typewriters that will produce such things as individualized form letters sent out to large numbers of clients.

Peter Yates

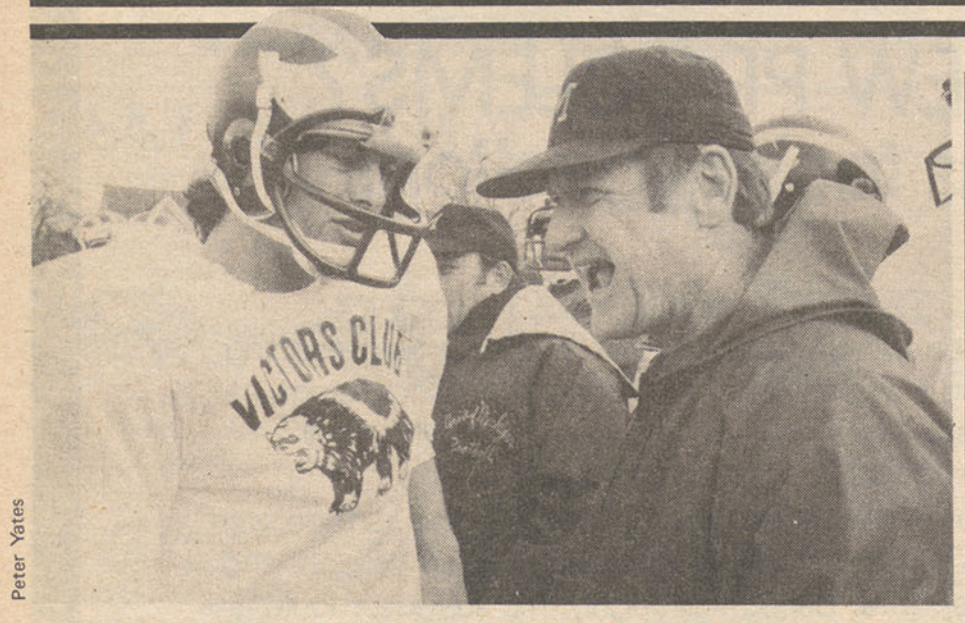
Chris Midgley and colleagues.

Word processing programs are one of the hottest items in the hot computer market, and disks comparable to the one he markets sell for two to twelve times as much, according to Midgley. His low overhead — he lives with his parents — lets him woo buyers with a low price. Fifty customers from France to California have bought his disk so far, and its slick 170-page manual won praise from a national dealers' organization for its high quality.

Now Midgley is developing four major products that could potentially make him a small fortune. Highly secretive about his new designs, he will say only that he will soon approach a national company with a breakthrough that lets computers of highly differing designs talk to each other.

Community High teacher Ed Herstein says, "It's perfectly possible for people of Midgley's age and younger to whip up something and find a market for it. Personal computer software is sort of a 'cottage industry' at this point." Brad Compton — Midgley's main systems programmer — made hundreds of dollars on programs he designed as a tenth grader.

On the side, Midgley takes occasional jobs as a systems consultant, gaining as much as $40 an hour from U-M labs. But he has recently turned down some consulting, throwing all of his energy into his big breakthroughs. "I'm going to go for broke," he grins. □



Peter Yates

Bo Schembechler: *An embarrassment?*

There's increasing sentiment among U-M faculty members that head football coach Bo Schembechler may become as embarrassing for Michigan as Woody Hayes was for Ohio State. "Like it or not," said one assistant dean recently, "Schembechler is the most nationally prominent person in this university. Unfortunately, the image he sometimes projects is of a person who can't control himself."

Last fall the hard-driving coach angrily shoved a reporter during a press conference after the reporter asked a question related to the team's dismal kicking performance. Just last month, Schembechler summarily dismissed five players from the squad without explaining why and apparently without giving the players a chance to defend themselves. The Detroit Free Press quoted one of the dismissed players describing the scene of the dismissal: ". . . all of a sudden he started yelling. He said he had all this evidence on us, but he never told us what it is. He never gave us a chance to talk, he just started ranting and raving."

By leaving it to people's imaginations what the players' crimes were, rumors have abounded. An Ohio radio station in one of the suspended player's home towns reportedly connected him with dealing drugs. Four of the five players have categorically denied using drugs, let alone selling them.

A senior faculty member remarked after the suspensions, "The image I'm getting of Schembechler is of a quick-tempered, General Patton-type coach. It's an image a lot of rabid Wolverine football fans may like, but I don't like it, and most of the faculty I know don't like it either." □

Brett Waller: *museum director moves on to greener pastures*

Peter Yates

Brett Waller, director of the U-M Museum of Art, has been frustrated for four years over decreasing funding for museum acquisitions. The money at Waller's disposal for buying art dropped from a yearly level of $75,000 to zero in 1976 and hasn't amounted to more than $15,000 a year since. $15,000 is peanuts in today's soaring art market.

This month Waller is leaving the museum for greener pastures — specifically, directorship of the University of Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery. The Rochester museum is considerably older than the U-M Museum, and its much larger endowments leave only 12% of its budget paid by university funds — a blessed circumstance these days because it's easy for university administrators to view museum acquisitions as frills when facing tight budgets.

The U-M Museum of Art isn't even thirty-five years old, and, Waller says, "the collection isn't as good as it ought to be yet. It aspires to be a general museum covering the whole history of Western art from the third century A.D. to the present, as well as Asian art from the beginning. Its role as a teaching museum requires such broad coverage, and its role as a public art museum requires that it not be satisfied with specimens of indifferent quality.

"If we had $150,000 to $200,000 for acquisitions, we'd be in pretty good shape. If the museum is seen only as a specialized research facility for a small group of scholars then it's probably hard to justify that kind of expenditure. But if it's seen as one of the things that makes the difference between a great and an ordinary university—a contributor to the cultural and intellectual life of the community—then it's not that much to pay. I hope that's what the University itself will conclude as it seeks a new director."

Acquisitions funds dried up when the University's left-over "year-end funds," which used to go for acquiring library books and art, failed to materialize in 1976. Waller had been working to strengthen the Friends of the Museum, which now brings in about $40,000 yearly, $20,000 or $30,000 of which can be applied to acquisitions. Those funds help, but aren't even near the $100,000 level Waller feels is minimally adequate.

"Not that I'm leaving Michigan with a sense of disgruntlement or unhappiness," Waller says. "The years I've spent here have been among the happiest of my professional life, and for my family, too."

At 44, Waller is trim and still rather boyish in appearance, quiet and carefully spoken. His particular field of interest is in 19th and 20th century American prints. His career began as Director of the Military College of South Carolina's Citadel Museum, where swords, assorted artillery and school memorabilia sat waiting in piles to be made into a museum. He came to the U-M after posts as Director of the University of Kansas' Museum and Director of Public Education and Higher Education at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. □

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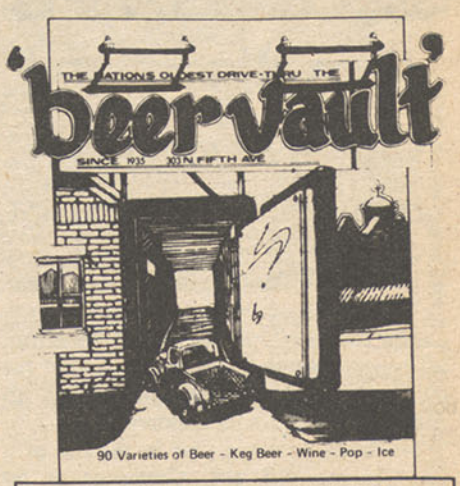

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Joan Blos:

Creating a modern message from the past

In early February *A Gathering of Days*, Joan Blos's novel for ages 12 to 16, was named this year's winner of the American Library Association's Newbery Award for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

The book covers a year in the life of a fourteen-year-old girl. Catherine is no romantically-styled rebel heroine, but rather a carefully-spoken, respectful girl. The book is about how she goes against her father's views and secretly helps a runaway slave, how she overcomes her jealousy and accepts a new stepmother, and how she adjusts to the death of her best friend.

Blos, a small, articulate, and widely-read woman of 51, currently lectures on chidren's literature in the U-M School of Education. (Budget cuts have eliminated her position for next year.)

Research for *A Gathering of Days* started about fifteen years ago, not as a book for teenagers, but simply as casual research into the history of an 1830's farmhouse near Meredith, New Hampshire, which her husband's family has owned since the 1940's. Source material about the original builder's family made Blos curious about the lives of New Englanders in the 1830's. In the early 1970's, the general wave of nostalgia for the simple life gave her the idea of doing a nonfiction book for children about the house and its occupants. The book evolved into a fictionalized journal and, ultimately, a novel written as a journal — a happy form which creates the illusion of an authentic journal while allowing for a novelistic rendering of important conversations and scenes.

"There were things I wanted to say as a person of a parent's generation," says Blos, whose own children were in junior high when the book really got underway. "The Seventies were difficult, challenging times. Our concept of the past was being revised and debunked. I felt people were floundering, reluctant to be committed. It left very little to count on in tradition. Another thing happened. . . a number of people I cared for were going to die. This middle-aged perspective, that the years were not without end, made me feel that life at the time was very important. At the end of the book, when Catherine, grown old, is saying 'do what you can to make life good'. . . that was me talking, and that was what I wanted the book to say."

So far *A Gathering of Days* has sold 18,000 copies — a best-seller by children's book standards. And Scribners has expressed interest in a sequel about what happens to Catherine after she leaves home at the book's end. □

Daryl Hurst: *Making it in magic*

Peter Yates

When Daryl Hurst decided in 1975 to turn a life-long interest in magic into a full-time business, his parents were not exactly thrilled. Hurst had just graduated from the U-M (his honors thesis was on the use of magic in radio and TV). His plan to open with his wife Kay a tiny magic shop in the Old World Mall didn't seem like the most prudent use of his education. "When I said I wanted to do what I really wanted to do," he recalls, "they said, 'Yeah, but you've got to make a living.' So it's been kind of a dare — proving you can live off of magic."

As a boy Hurst made his own magic tricks, then graduated to ordering tricks from the venerable Johnson-Smith catalog, that treasure-house of magical delights. In 1969, at age 15, he was accomplished enough to get a job for the Ann Arbor Recreational Department performing for kids in the summer. It's a job he's been doing now for eleven straight years. And the enjoyment of performing has yet to wear off. "Most people think I'm a very quiet, business-like person, and yet when I get up on stage and start performing, I turn into this wild, crazy, fun-loving guy who does all sorts of neat tricks."

Today Hurst is booked for thirty to thirty-five performances a month throughout the region. At $35 a show and up, the income from shows alone is enough to support the Hursts, although their shop is a convenient headquarters.

The Old World Mall shop was a surprising success, but the Hursts were forced to close when the Mall was shut down a year later. For a year and a half, Hurst sold shoes at Goodyears, then re-opened the shop when the Mall was revived in 1977. A year ago The Magic Shop moved to Maple Village, where business volume has tripled. Economically, the Hursts are now in excellent shape.

Hurst says the shop's most frequent customer is a young adult who wants something he can show people at parties or bars. The less expensive tricks are fast movers: Chinese sticks, nickels that turn into dimes, a cigarette that disappears. "We carry all the novelties," says Hurst, "the foam rocks, the hand buzzers, hot pepper bubblegum. We don't get into things like stink bombs and itching powder — that's a little bit too far."

And what's the best selling item in the store? "Probably the good old Groucho Marx glasses with the fuzzy eyebrows and the mustache. If it isn't that, I'd say the whoopee cushion. We can't keep enough of those in stock." □

Ken and Cherry Westerman: *Turning Ann Arbor into soccer-town*

Soccer. which just a few years ago was a game few Ann Arborites played, is booming these days. There was only one soccer team in 1971; this year there are 65. A good part of the reason for soccer's soaring popularity here is Ken and Cherry Westerman, who came to town in 1971. Both teach music in the public school system, but together manage to devote 50 to 60 hours a week promoting and organizing the game.

Ken started playing soccer at Yale where he was on the freshman hockey team. He was motivated to play because he wanted the extra exercise, but found he enjoyed the game and went on to play intramural soccer. The varsity soccer coach spotted him, and he played on the Yale team his senior year. After arriving in Ann Arbor, Ken played with the Ann Arbor Wolverines when they were formed in 1973. When team founder Tony Moulatsiotis left town in 1975, Ken took over as manager and set out to find a sponsor and a field to play on. The team had been playing at Huron High, erecting goal posts before every game.

Ken petitioned city council for a soccer field, requesting the unused field on the north side of Fuller Road by the river, and council granted his request. The number of people coming to practice with the Heidelberg Lions (Fritz Kochendorfer of the Old Heidelberg had become the team sponsor) increased dramatically, and an adult soccer league was formed in conjunction with the Ann Arbor Recreation Department. This affiliation did not work out very well, so the Ann Arbor Soccer Club was formed, with Ken as president, and it has run the league every since.

Cherry started playing soccer when the first open league was formed. She played in the women's league when it started in 1978 and has run the youth league since its formation. The past couple of summers Ken and Cherry have spent four hours a day, five days a week, administering, coaching, and refereeing the soccer club program. In addition to that, Ken plays for the Heidelberg Lions and Cherry plays for the senior women's team, Artemis. At home Ken has put in ten to twenty hours a week, year 'round, as secretary of the Michigan Soccer Association.

Peter Yates

This winter Ken and Cherry decided that they had to have some help running the ever-expanding soccer club, so a number of positions that they used to fill have been taken over by other people, though Ken is still president of the club and, after a hiatus, is again manager of the Heidelberg Lions. □

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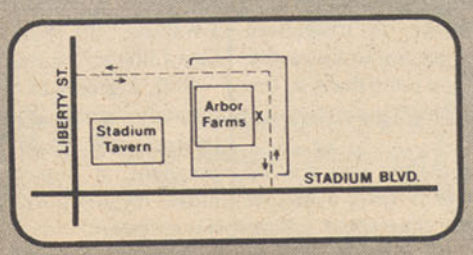

CONVENIENT PARKING

Steve Bhaerman and Josh Pokempner: *Seeking new ways of getting it together*

Pathways, a new magazine published in Ann Arbor, lists some big goals: "increased joy, success and wellness" for its readers and ultimately for the "local and world community." Launched in January, the free magazine is published on the first day of each month and is available by mail and in stores like Applerose and Borders. It offers articles on topics like meditation, social change, and "Healing Yourself without Drugs, " interspersed with unexpected patches of wild humor. Fake advertisements invite readers to buy Karma Kleaner or to contact "The Famous Guru's School" about seminars run by the enterprising "Swami Beyondananda" (the Yogi from Muskogee) on "Enlightenment on the Run," "Guilt, How to Get It and Keep It," and "How to Get Nothing for Something."

Steve Bhaerman and Josh Pokempner, the enthusiastic editors of this offbeat journal, are a similar blend of lofty purpose and forthright craziness.

In person, Bhaerman, 33, is a colorfully dressed seriocomic, wearing a large black mustache in the shape of an inverted U and a brilliantly mottled patchwork shirt. Pokempner, 29, is his co-editor and artistic director. He sports a full, ruddy beard, a red velvet heart on his gold sweat jacket, and a scarlet T-shirt emblazoned with the potters' slogan — "Super Mud."

According to these cheerfully energetic journalists, *Pathways* represents the revolutionary thinking that has quietly infiltrated the U.S. during the last decade. The new revolution is far different from the one Bhaerman and Pokempner joined in the late Sixties, demonstrating for civil rights and radical social change. While Bhaerman started free schools in the East, Pokempner amassed a modest fortune selling bumper stickers at southern music festivals ("Get High on Bluegrass!").

During the Seventies, like many spent agitators, both men turned inward. "I decided to take care of myself" is the way Bhaerman puts it. He migrated to Ann Arbor, abandoned communal living, taught night courses in history and writing, took an outdoor job with the city forester, and started a wacky newsletter — the "State's Wire Service — all the news before it happens!" Its scoops included "The Tragedy of Truck Abuse," the secret City Hall plan to resettle in Taiwan (for cheap labor), and the sensational local toy, "the Young Frankenstein Genetic Engineering Kit."

Pokempner found work as a carpenter and architect's apprentice and entered the U-M School of Architecture and Design. During the decade, both men began to sample "personal growth" workshops from polarity to rebirthing. They met each other in a Jewish co-counseling group. Their joint publishing venture jelled last fall when they spotted an untapped local market. They see the city as "The Midwest Capital of the Human Potential Movement" — a haven for therapies like gestalt, primal scream, EST, transactional analysis, behavior modification, encounter, and re-evaluation counseling. Ann Arbor also has its share of Eastern imports like transcendental meditation, yoga, martial arts, and two full-fledged ashrams. Finally, it offers domestic paths to fullfillment and salvation from holistic health to Dale Carnegie, Silva Mind Control, and traditional Judaeo-Christian religions.

"There is very little communication among these groups," says Pokempner, "and they don't have a way to reach the general public." *Pathways* hopes to meet these needs, with Bhaerman as head writer and Pokempner handling advertising.

Bhaerman believes that many activists who turned inward are ready to move out again. But their revolutionary strategy has changed. "In the Sixties we were motivated by anger," says Bhaerman. "We were saying, *'I'm* all right. But *you've* got to change.' Now we are saying that we ourselves are changing and that others can, too."

Pathways' contributors will describe, as Pokempner puts it, "ways to cut through hopelessness, childhood conditioning, and the blocks raised by bad experiences" in order to "shed disease, connect to supernatural energies, have fun, and become more loving" — the old activists' new-world agenda for the Eighties.□

Peter Yates

Bhaerman and Pokempner with Pathways *graphics designer Jane Delancey.*

Don Hubbard:

Worst politician of the month

This month's award was won handsdown by First Ward Republican city council candidate Don Hubbard. Ann Arbor Republicans must have been hard up indeed to field this fellow, who at 21 years of age has yet to vote. Hubbard didn't even bother to move into the First Ward until after he began his campaign. A protegé of Republican stalwart Letty Wickliffe, Hubbard proceeded to lash out at incumbent Democratic opponent Susan Greenberg, accusing her of poor attendance at council meetings and of advocating mobile homes all over the First Ward. In fact, Greenberg has one of the best attendance records on council and has never boosted mobile homes. Pressed to substantiate these charges, Hubbard had no coherent response. Fortunately, few Ann Arbor council races are marred by such blatantly irresponsible attacks on opponents.□

The end of an era?

Drew and Jose Rock are leaving

Ann Arbor will lose two of its more distinctive cultural institutions this month when Drew and Jose Rock leave town. Drew and Jose, in their early thirties, are part of a special generation — a whole subculture, in fact, that helped turn Ann Arbor in the early 1970's from a college town that closed down in summer into a much livelier, more diverse place with its own cafe society, centering around the Del Rio and The Blind Pig. People who came here to study or were just passing through decided to stay around, unfettered by the confines of "real jobs" — the kind that make you wear a tie or nylons and stay in one place from 9 to 5.

Drew is founder and publisher of The Periodical Lunch and Street Fiction Press, jobs he performed while managing a small office building. Jose developed the Ann Arbor Museum, displays of rotating art at the Del Rio and three restaurants, while waitressing at the Del Rio. Creating a place where art and everyday life meet has been a big part of both their work.

Jose's museum started when employees of the cooperatively-run Del Rio bar wanted to have some art on their walls. Jose volunteered to coordinate the task. "For a long time I'd give anybody a chance if they were sincerely trying to create art, not just submitting classroom assignments," Jose recalls. "But it got to the point where the Del Rio's been booked through July for a year. The project really blossomed. It seems like there are a million artists in Ann Arbor." Other exhibits were placed in The Earle, Eden's restaurant, and the now-defunct Turtle Island. Displays at the latter two places had to fit in with the natural-food image, but the Del Rio staff accepted anything, no matter how unsettling or sarcastic its style.

Restaurant galleries "are not real viable for sales," Jose says. "It's more a mass exposure type of thing. But a lot of artists first displayed here have gone on to gallery shows and sales. I love getting to know the artists. This is a way I can contribute to the art world — it's just as satisfying as doing a nice drawing."

Drew came to Ann Arbor and started Street Fiction Press in 1973 after a stint in the Air Force and some time spent selling his fiction in broadsheet form on the streets of San Francisco. His idea was to bring fiction — and poetry — to "where the people are," and Ann Arbor, in America's heartland, had a kind of reverse-snobbery appeal. Street Fiction's logo — a spotted dog discretely lifting its hind leg to an elegantly-drawn gas street lamp, is at the same time outrageous in content and polished in presentation, as is much of what Street Fiction has done. With poet and Residential College teacher Warren Hecht as editor, SFP started *The Periodical Lunch,* an idiosyncratic little magazine that first appeared unbound in bags. SFP's catalog proclaimed it "the Cash Register Item of the Century!" in Drew's own brand of ebullient hype. "An inexpensive impulse item, a literary sampler, a graphic bauble containing a great variety of poetry, prose fiction, and offset graphic art."

"The Lunch was an editorial fly-trap," according to Rock. "All our authors came to us through the Lunch. Those whose relationships we wanted to encourage, we'd put in our anthology. Novelist Stephen Dixon, whose book *Quite Contrary* was published by Harper & Row, was a Lunch discovery. Rock also promoted and distributed Ann Arbor graphic artist Terry Shukle's *Giraffe Raps,* a book of black-humor take-offs on ads for cigarettes, cosmetics, and the like, which Drew calls "an underground classic."

"Quality paperbacks in the mass market" was SFP's announced goal, and its fictitious mentor, Otto Ampersand, proclaims grandly on the back cover of its slick catalog, "I may be just another freckle on the arm of literature, but I'm changing the complextion of publishing in America."

While none of SFP's nine volumes of poetry and fiction have lost money, SFP isn't exactly rolling in bucks, either. Drew maintains an attitude of satisfaction, however. "I've been able to do exactly what I wanted," he says, "Stay out of the East Coast literary establishment."

Still, it seems like time to move on. Fortunately, small publishing firms can be transplanted, and when Jose became pregnant, it looked like a good time to move to Newport, Rhode Island, Jose's home state.□

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SUMMING UP

The month's news in review.

1. The Racial Balancing Act

Superintendent Harry Howard was clearly dismayed during March by the negative reaction of six of the school board members to his plan to racially balance local elementary schools. Six Ann Arbor schools have either too high or too low a percentage of black students, according to guidelines set by the State Board of Education. Pressure has been mounting for some time to more fully equalize the system's racial mixture.

Board members did not criticize Howard's minor school boundary adjustments or his proposal to change the school destination of 150 of the 2000 daily elementary bus riders. And there was little initial comment on proposals for two tote-your-own programs to which parents could drive their children — a 200-child informal school within Northside and space for 100 students in an "exemplary" teaching-learning lab school at Mack.

The plank that raised the hackles of board members and vocal citizens was Howard's proposal to start busing 330 children who currently walk to school. 154 Northside students would ride to Thurston or Burns Park and 175 Bryant students would go to nearby Stone or Allen schools.

Board liberals were angry that two-thirds of the new bus riders would be black. Board member John Powell grumbled, "The plan has placed the burden on the shoulders of the black population." Other liberals complained that the sacrifice fell entirely on low-income families.

Conservatives John Heald and Wendy Barhydt criticized the new busing for quite a different reason. They want to see children voluntarily board buses bound for diversified "magnet" schools rather than making mandatory trips to conventional programs.

The racial balancing act promises to absorb the board and public's time for many weeks to come.

□

2. The Ho-hum Election

The April 7 city council election gives all promise of the least interest, lowest turnout city election in more than a decade. For the first year since 1976, there will be no mayoral race. The city council races in four of the city's five wards are probably not really contests at all. Lastly, there are no controversial ballot

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proposals to excite voter interest. Nevertheless, the election is an important one.

The election is both boring and important for the same reason: ward boundaries. The present ward boundaries are the result of a compromise between the Democratic Party and the now-defunct Human Rights Party back in 1972. That compromise produced four wards which are almost always lopsided victories for one party. With the exception of Wendell Allen's 1976 victory, the Republicans have never come close to winning in Wards One and Two, and Democrats have never won in Wards Three and Five. That pattern is unlikely to change this year.

But barring some unexpected development, 1980 is the next-to-last year these ward boundaries will be used. By 1982, the city will be using new boundaries, drawn on the basis of the 1980 census. The councilmembers and mayor elected this year and next will be the ones who draw the new boundaries. Whichever party wins a majority of the eleven seats up for grabs in these next two city elections may well be able to control city government throughout the 1980's.

There are some interesting ironies in this year's council races. In Wards One and Two, Democratic incumbents Susan Greenberg and Earl Greene, both "middle-aged" homeowners, are being challenged by Republicans Donald Hubbard and Toni Burton, both U-M undergraduates. Ordinarily, Republicans in those wards have drawn little support from student voters and are usually associated with older, homeowner interests. Hubbard and Burton are both making increased police protection major issues in their campaigns, quite a switch from the anti-police student politics of a few years ago.

Third Ward Republican Councilman Cliff Sheldon has no opposition in his quest for a second term.

In the Fifth Ward, schoolteacher and one-time AATA Chairwoman Joyce Chesbrough is being challenged by former Deputy Washtenaw County Drain Commissioner Thomas Bletcher. Although Bletcher is attempting to mount a serious campaign effort, the unbroken string of Republican Fifth Ward victories is likely to continue.

As usual, the Fourth Ward will likely be the only real contest. Incumbent Republican David Fisher is seeking a second term and is being challenged by Democrat Barbara Perkins. Democrats hope that the energetic Fisher will be vulnerable because of what they see as his clumsy and inarticulate style on council. Perkins is better known than some previous Fourth Ward Democratic hopefuls, having been an outspoken opponent of airport expansion while serving on the Airport Advisory Committee. The number one issue in this year's election is property taxes. Fisher promises to lower them; Perkins says Fisher has a record of making promises which he has no way of fullfilling.

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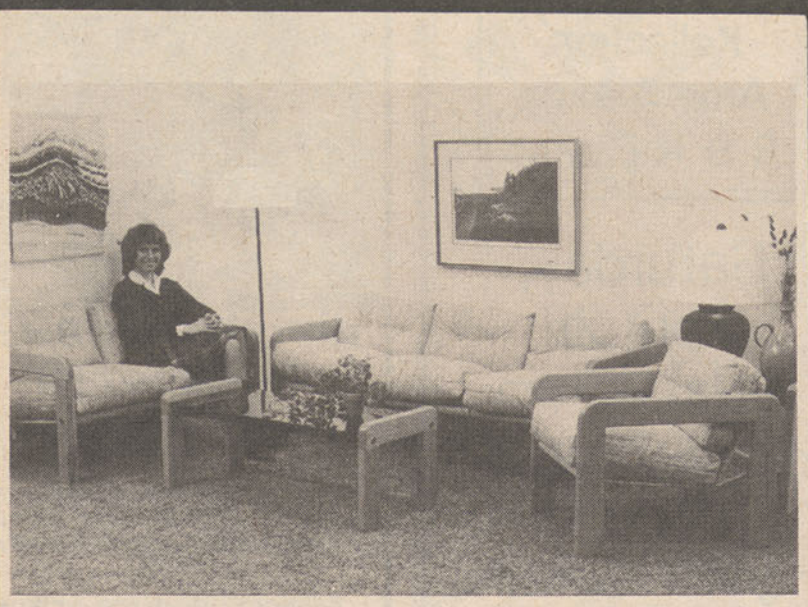

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SUMMING UP/continued

3. Long School Debate Ends

The bruising year-long battle that pitted the school board and administrators against the independent-minded faculties of the city's five intermediate schools is over. Major new policies are finally in place, indicating the board's determination to decide courses and to secure a more uniform structure in each school. The lingering fall-out of teacher resentment is balanced with relief that some compromises were achieved.

During the final nine-hour, two-night board marathon, observers beheld the startling spectacle of a flock of conservative-minded parents like Republican councilman Louis Senunas and board conservatives John Heald and Wendy Barhydt praising curriculum flexibility, diversity, and decision-making in local schools — concepts that haven't been popular at the board table for eight years — while triumphant liberals came out for more mandatory subject matter and uniformity across schools to assure equal treatment. The June board election campaigns will be a fascinating aftermath.

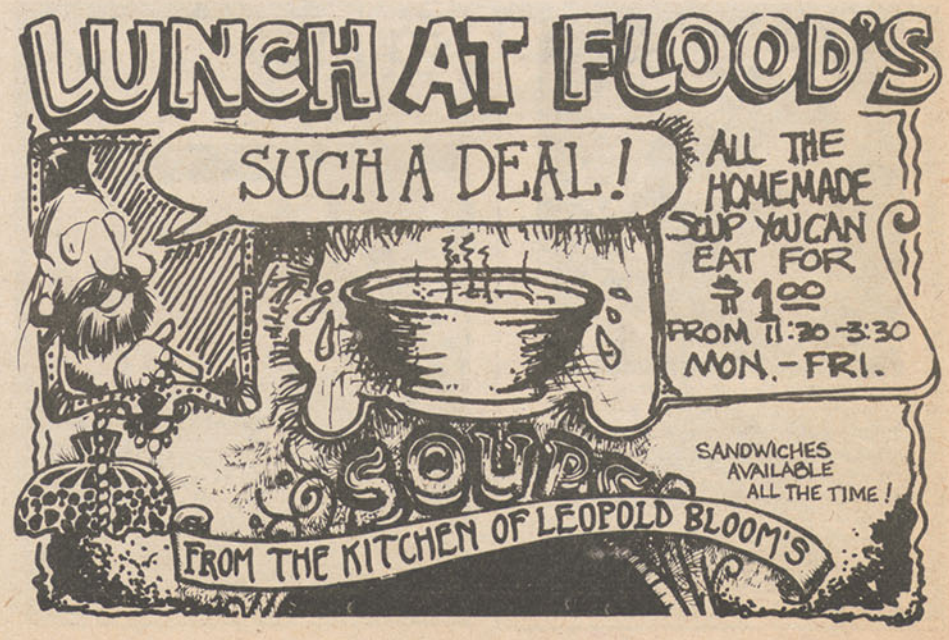
It may be years before the district really knows to what extent intermediate students have gained and lost from the protracted controversy. While most 7th graders gained 12-week classes in shop, art, and home economics, in Clague Middle School they lost more autonomous exploration in those three fields and others.

Students gained the board's new half-year health course. But a citywide teachers' committee saw this as a loss, eliminating later electives and potentially more interesting health studies in other classes.

The faculty's math lobby lost its fight for three to four ability-grouped classes in 7th grade math. No more than two tracks will be allowed.

4. Funny Season on Council

With city elections just around the corner, it was funny season at city council last month as members voted to ask City Administrator Terry Sprenkel to prepare a budget based on 15% less in tax revenues than last year. It already appears that this coming year the city couldn't even afford to maintain existing services with the present tax rate. The anticipated shortfall is due, among other things, to the sky-rocketing cost of fuel for police cars, garbage trucks, and other city vehicles. To cut city taxes on top of the anticipated shortfall in revenues would require far more drastic reductions in city services than has occured in a single year in recent history. The city council will have its hands full, most observers agree, just dealing with



the anticipated budget deficit. Few expect to see much serious talk of anything more than a token tax cut once the city elections are over.

5. City Property Assessments Soar, but Budget Deficit Looms

You would think with the whopping 20% increase in city dwelling values announced recently that city hall coffers would be filled to overflowing in tax dollars. Instead, the city is facing a budget deficit for the coming year. How come?

First of all, home-dwellings make up only part of the property the city assesses. Commercial property increased much less in value, causing a total of 14% in increased city revenues.

Furthermore, only a third of the city's operating budget comes from property taxes. The other two-thirds, from such sources as federal revenue-sharing and fines, will actually *decline* slightly in the coming year. This will leave a net anticipated revenue increase of 7% to 8%, even though homes appreciated 20% in value.

Finally, the cost of city services is likely to rise much faster than that 7% to 8% increase in revenues, thanks primarily to the quickly-escalating costs of gasoline, chemicals, and other energy-derived materials.

That, in short, is why Ann Arbor homeowners, like American home-owners elsewhere, will be paying significantly higher local taxes for essentially the same amount of services in the year ahead.

6. Henderson Ford Closes

Henderson Ford, one of the area's largest automobile dealers and the only Ford dealer in Ann Arbor, closed its doors last month because of financial insolvency. Many if not most American auto dealerships are currently facing critical financial problems due to soaring interest rates which have as much as doubled a dealer's cost of maintaining inventory in just the last year alone. The new cars in a dealer's showroom are bought with loans, and Henderson is said to have been paying a thousand dollars a day in interest just on its inventory.

With no let-up in sight for interest rates, one informed observer predicts that as many as 30% of the local auto dealers may soon go under. Domestic auto dealers are especially vulnerable because they have traditionally kept a larger stock of autos on hand than dealers of foreign cars. "People tend to think that auto dealers are sitting back getting rich," says one Ann Arbor dealer ruefully. "Maybe now they'll see what it's really like."

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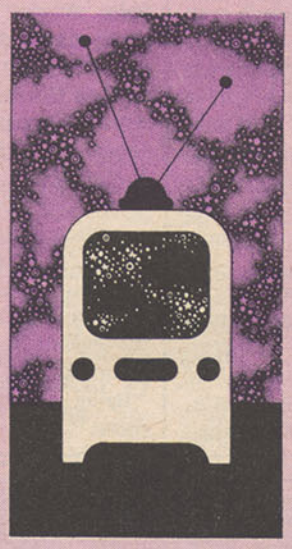
Here Comes Ben Hooks!

After a decade of shoddy cable TV service, Ann Arborites can finally look forward to joining the cable revolution.

By ANNE REMLEY



Settle back, folks. Everything's O.K., now. At long last Ann Arbor's ten-year-old, scrape-along, low-morale, debt-ridden cable TV system is in the hands of a real pro. Ben Hooks is in town, and he knows what he's doing.

That's the heady feeling of confidence one gains from a chat with Hooks, incoming general manager of Ann Arbor Cablevision. On April 1, the local cable company will be purchased by Hooks' employer, Daniels and Associates, a Denver-based firm that makes a specialty of buying slightly down-at-the-heels medium-sized cable systems. Daniels owns or manages systems in Lincoln, Nebraska; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; central Texas; southern California; Alaska; and now Ann Arbor.

The firm was checked out by Charlene Ladd, executive director of Ann Arbor's cablecasting commission. She says it's the twenty-first largest cable operation in the U.S., has been in business a long time, and received high praise from people she contacted in eleven cities where Daniels operates. "Apparently they do everything they promise and more," she says. "Not one negative word did I hear about the company."

Daniels has refined its take-over operation into a polished routine. It puts in experienced professional staff and a liberal capital investment — $2 million pegged for new equipment during its first three years here. Unusual new programs are used to entice local TV viewers to pay to tap into the cable, already looping between utility poles past 30,000 Ann Arbor homes, only one-third of which are now connected to the system.

Ben Hooks, age 32, comes into town from thirteen years as a Daniels troubleshooter and general manager. "When we get through with this, it's going to be a first-class operation," he says with tangible relish at the prospect. Born and raised in southern California, Hooks has a Westerner's open, relaxed, friendly manner set firmly on a businesslike base. A Texas tinge is evident in his voice after ten years in Waco, Temple, and Killeen. His blue crêpe shirt and dark hair, parted in the center with impressive waves breaking above each temple, give him a faintly southwestern aura.

The Daniels firm sent Hooks to Ann Arbor at the end of January, even though closing was not slated until April. With his wife and two youngsters Hooks settled in a new subdivision on Tuebingen Street in northeast Ann Arbor and threw himself into his work. "I'm laying out the first two years of operation," he says. "It's gonna be very agressive. I've got a lot to do."

Hooks plans to improve and expand the system and work methodically to get to know his market before he chooses satellite program services for Ann Arbor. "Typically, I'll become very involved in the community," he says, "listening to people. I want to study the market so we know what we're doing. We hate to make mistakes — knock on wood." (He clunks a wooden desk top with a grin.)

"I'm usually very active in a service group and the Chamber." In Temple he was director of Kiwanis, March of Dimes and the local yacht club (he holds two national sailing championships). He's found that group membership is a good way for a newcomer to get acquainted. "I have a business to run, but I try to do both."

Peter Yates

Ben Hooks atop the cable TV antennas on the roof of Tower Plaza.

Hooks is already gathering his slides to show local groups. "I'll be ready for presentations in three or four months," he says. Groups that book Hooks will meet a true cable enthusiast. "Cable TV is booming. No question about it," he says. "The possibilities of what can be done are just phenomenal."

Right now the services offered by the local system are limited. Cable provides good reception on stations from Detroit, Lansing, and Toledo, a news and weather "ticker," energetic local presentations, city council and school board meetings, and movies for an extra fee. Many people buy the cable service now just because they like not having to put up and maintain a roof-top antenna.

But Hooks feels expanded programming is his surest lure. "People say to me, 'You're a monopoly,' and maybe I am — in cable," says Hooks. "But the viewer has other options. There's sixteen other TV stations out there that they can receive free. We try to add programming that's not available with an antenna."

Hooks is considering a satellite-beamed service from Madison Square Garden that would feature live events from prize fights to basketball to dog shows. "That's been a very popular channel, in our other cities."

He's also eyeing channel 17 in Atlanta, an independent satellite station that's on

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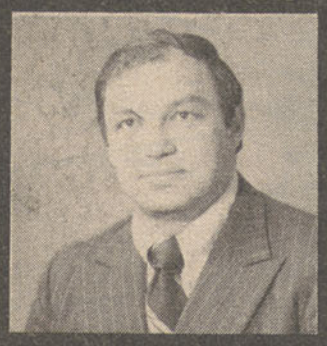

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the air twenty-four hours a day. The station — owned by entrepreneur Ted Turner, has three million viewers. It features movies, old TV re-runs, and Atlanta baseball, basketball and football teams, most of which are owned by Turner himself. Tom Coates, video marketing expert from Michigan Media, says, "Teddy Turner's service is the equivalent of another national network." Coates says Turner is adding a 24-hour news channel this fall and has already signed luminaries like Daniel Schorr to do in-depth analysis and features. Coates is enthusiastic about the ability of satellite-cable to serve all kinds of people.

Finally, Hooks is looking at WGN-TV, the Chicago Tribune's satellite-borne station; ESPN, a 24-hour sports film network; Canadian channels; and 24-hour religious channels. A sure addition is U-M's new channel 28, originating in Flint on June 1. On the cable, the U-M will add local programming.

Hooks concludes, "I might not be able to provide everything everybody wants, but I sure want to provide what the majority of people want. There should be something on the cable each person likes a lot. I'd like to hear from people."

Hooks emphasizes, "These services will not cost basic subscribers anything extra." Later, when the lost communciations satellite Satcom III is replaced in orbit, Hooks may add more expensive programs that would be available for an extra fee.

□

In addition to his general programming, Hooks plans to upgrade the movies seen by subscribers who now pay an extra monthly fee. Ann Arbor is one of a few cities in the country to offer pay viewers a cable channel which relies heavily on skin flicks. After considering the subject, Hooks plans to eliminate the televised porn.

For the last three and a half years, the current cable operators have offered six R and X-rated movies a month on one pay channel and six family-rated movies on the other. Some of the X's have been pretty raunchy, with explicit sex as the main bill of fare. "I watched one a year ago when I was in town," says Hooks. "They're generally very poor movies. There's not much of a plot to 'em. The one I saw was basically a cocktail party around a pool and that was it, y'know. The movie itself was very boring. I don't know that I'd enjoy watching another one that much."

Hooks and Daniels' executives considered what to do with Ann Arbor's X's and concluded, says Hooks, "The cable industry is not ready for X. There's maybe a half dozen systems across the country that provide X-movies. The rest of them do not, and Daniels is one that doesn't. We're kind of opposed to it. We don't show them on any of our properties. It's just not very tasteful to us," says Hooks. "Generally the average person I talk to doesn't feel they're a healthy thing to provide in the home. Maybe it's because I have children. I'm very careful about what my children watch even on an R program."

Charlene Ladd, cablecasting commission executive director, says that the X's have been a thorny issue locally. 3600 local subscribers buy both the family channel and the X-and-R channel each month. (Pay channels are scrambled on the sets of non-paying subscribers). 400 buy only the family channel and 400 only the X.

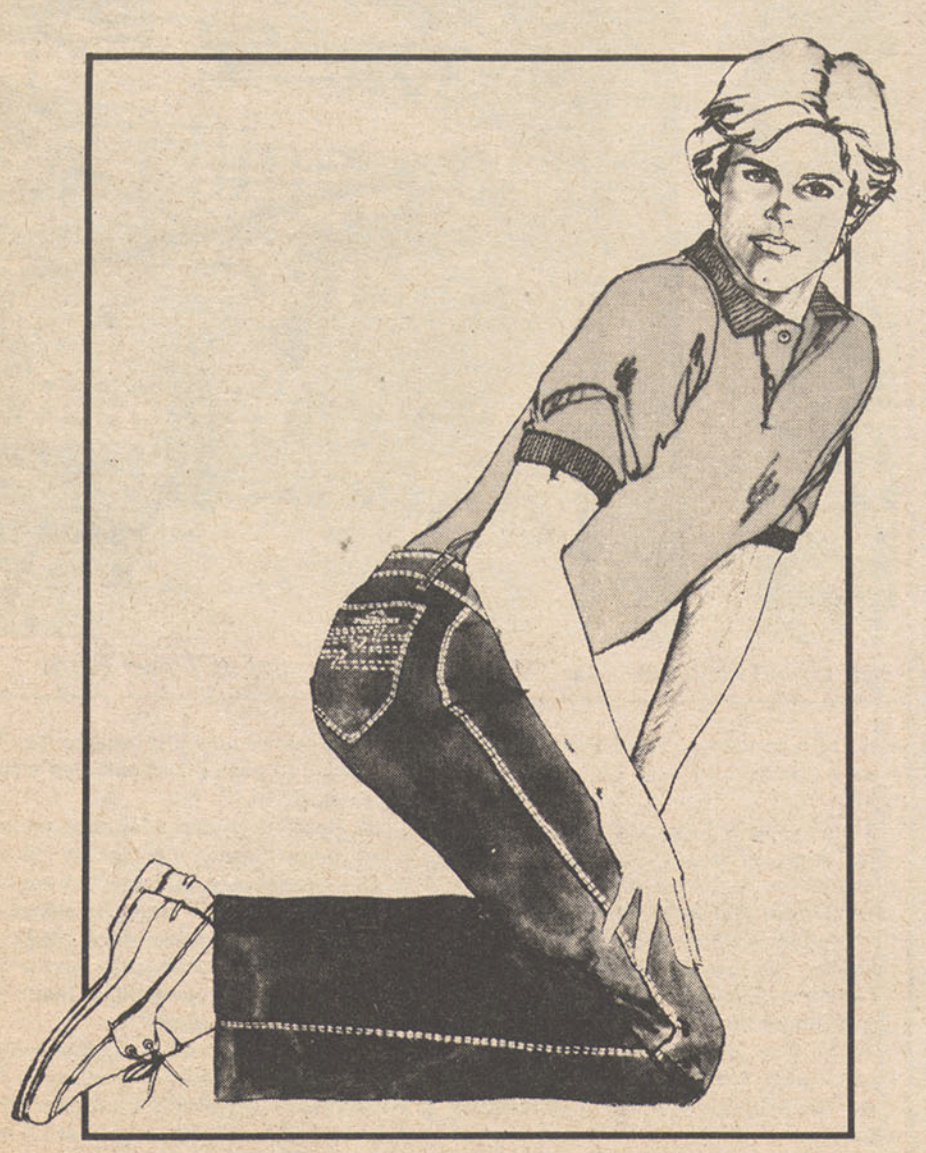
The Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization, has been petitioning city council to stop the X-features. However, the cable commissioners held to the viewpoint that, as Ladd says, "as long as a person receives it in their own home, they should have the option to view an X-rated movie."

Now, however, the commission and staff have changed their stand. Ladd explains why. "In three and a half years of pay movies, only two X's were aesthetically decent," she says. "Hooks is bringing in a much higher quality of movie. And Daniels wants the reputation of being a stable company represented by family men — the kind of person who belongs to Kiwanis. They don't want their people's kids to be teased in school about the kind of movies their dad shows on TV. We're behind Hooks," she concludes.

"I'm going to provide viewers with a better service, a more expensive service for the same dollars," argues Hooks. "An X movie is generally a much cheaper movie. I could make more money showing it, but I think the average individual will be excited to find a little better product."

Hooks proudly displays the colorful, glossy brochure showing the current features in "Showcase," Daniels' national film package. Coming to Ann Arbor in August are movies like *Saturday Night Fever* and *King of Hearts*. Fourteen of these movies will appear monthly on a single channel, replacing the twelve now straddling two channels.

Then Hooks pulls out a second brochure which may mollify his old X viewers in October. "It's kind of a replacement for the X," Hooks explains — seven features a month — "It's basically just R and 'racy R' — action films, car racing, and 'Big Bad Mama,' — that kind of thing," says Hooks. "Actually with the R, the language does exist and the nudity does, but not to the level of X. In other words, R is more of a quick shot of something," he says. "Being a little racier, you'll see a little more."



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The pay-movie customers are highly important to Hooks. He is ordering a new projection system that should please them with sharper, less distorted pictures and smoother reel changes. And movie viewers will be the first to exchange their little black converter boxes for new wood-grained Jerrold models that will further improve movie quality. Hooks confidently ordered the converters in February.

Over the next three years, all subscribers will receive the new converters so they can retrieve up to thirty-five channels instead of the current twenty-six — a sign of the expanded service Hooks is planning. Tracing the PERT chart he carries in his mind, he announces, "By Year Three when all the converters are in place, we'll go to thirty channels, and by Year Five, we'll go to thirty-five." Meanwhile he will reshuffle current channels to gain space for satellite imports which will begin next year.

Other Hooks innovations will be a built-to-order, production-boosting cable headquarters building, "a new look — all new white trucks," and installation of thirty-five final miles of cable, particularly in northeast Ann Arbor, giving virtually every house and apartment within the city limits access to cable. "Strand mapping" for the project is already being completed by Hooks's new chief engineer, Dick Sindeldecker, hired in February.

"What we're gonna do is what we've done in all the rest of the places," says Hooks. "Today maybe to some people it's just promises. To me it's more than that because I've experienced it. What I'll be most happy with is a couple of years from now, everybody saying, 'You did it!' "

"I know people have run the Ann Arbor system down, but I don't want to get into that. I don't want to do comparing. I just want to say, 'Here's what we're gonna do!' As far as I'm concerned cable TV in Ann Arbor is just starting today."

Hooks clearly likes his work. "I love managing properties," he says. "I've hit a spot I really enjoy. My last place I felt I could've stayed there forever, 'cause I really enjoyed it. I become very attached to a town and get a lot of friends. But I feel I'll become just as pleased with Ann Arbor.

"I know people have run the Ann Arbor system down, but I don't want to get into that. I don't want to do comparing. I just want to say, 'Here's what we're gonna do!' As far as I'm concerned cable TV in Ann Arbor is just starting today."

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The rosy picture painted by Hooks would be a welcome change of scene for Ann Arborites who have spent a decade watching four previous firms fail to make a go of local cable. Although the former owners slowly put the pieces of the cable system in place they often provided inept or questionable management, dubious financial dealings, and insufficient investment, while City Hall officials and the local regulatory commission looked on and did little to intervene.

One of the investors in the first local cable company was ex-Congressman Wes Vivian, now with the U-M Institute for Public Policy Studies. Vivian recalls that discussions among a few employees of KMS Industries back in the late Sixties led to formation of the first local firm. Legendary entrepreneur Keeve M. (Kip) Siegel, founder of KMS, was constantly looking for innovative investment opportunities. The idea of starting a cable TV operation in Ann Arbor intrigued Siegel and his staff. Although Siegel decided not to invest company funds in the project, Bob Shaw, active in sales for KMS, liked the idea. Vivian says it was Shaw's interest that ultimately led to formation of a small company. It was incorporated in 1968 as Michigan Communications Group (MCG) and Shaw started planning a cable system. Vivian says Shaw soon persuaded thirty or forty additional families to invest a few thousand dollars each while the firm sought major investors and a franchise from the city.

In 1970, the city council responded by passing an ordinance that established a five-member cablecasting commission to oversee cable operations. The commission, in turn, signed a franchise allowing the new firm to hang cable along the city's rights-of-way in exchange for an annual fee, provision of four channels for use by the public, wiring up of city schools, and steady expansion of service.

MCG did not have the millions needed to hang miles of cable, attract customers and wire up houses. Its money quickly began to run low as did the prospects of the original local investors.

In 1972, Shaw formed Company Number Two in the local cable picture, Michigan Community Antenna Television Associates (MCATV). The old firm, MCG, became a

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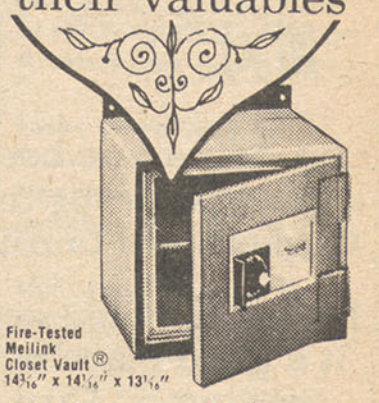

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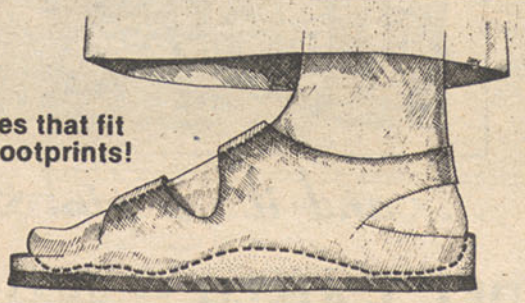

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limited partner. Shaw raised a half million from New York and several millions from a big Chicago investment firm, Heller Oak, whose companion firm, Oak Manufacturing, cleverly sold equipment to MCATV with funds supplied by Heller Oak.

MCATV put in place much of the system now in Ann Arbor. In a desperate attempt to build up revenue to pay for this expansion, Shaw provided expensive local programs which found few viewers.

"It was clearly a speculative gamble," says Vivian, but he adds, "It was certainly not an irrational business plan, just a risky one."

The gamble failed. Many criticized Shaw's management. Shaw gained the reputation of living "high" while the company staggered. Ex-employees' gossip has him driving an expensive company-owned yellow Porsche and leasing lavish apartments for lavish entertaining of potential investors. One source recalls, "Bob liked to travel first class. He didn't stint himself. He liked spending money. He was an assertive promoter who appeared to operate right on the edge of the law." Another claims that the specter of bouncing pay checks haunted many paydays.

Ex-cablecasting commissioner Jesse (Jay) Barr criticizes company officials. "They were out to make a maximum profit at minimum investment. They wanted to make a killing and they did."

Vivian disputes this claim. " 'High living' is not 'making a killing' in a business venture," he says, noting that auditors never uncovered hidden profits, something he was watching carefully because MCATV's fortunes were dipping so low that the original MCG investors were finding themselves "virtually wiped out." Vivian says ruefully that his "so-called shares" have yellowed and "are not worth papering the wall with today."

Cable commissioners were frustrated by their dealings with MCATV. They could not get a look at company books and felt they had little clout except the threat of revoking the firm's license, a step they were reluctant to take.

Then in January, 1975, commissioners were stunned to discover that on the last day of the old year MCATV had secretly sold out to a California company without consulting them or arranging to transfer the franchise.

Vivian tells an intriguing tale about the arrival in Ann Arbor of the new cable firm, Intertie, Inc. He says the transfer was largely due to the intervention of Heller Oak, the Chicago equipment and loan company. "They had a three million dollar investment dangling from poles in Ann Arbor," he says. "But there was no way they could get it out." Heller Oak was aware of the problems of its debtor, MCATV, and arranged for MCATV to sell out to another of its debtors, Intertie, which used a sizeable cash infusion from — Heller Oak!

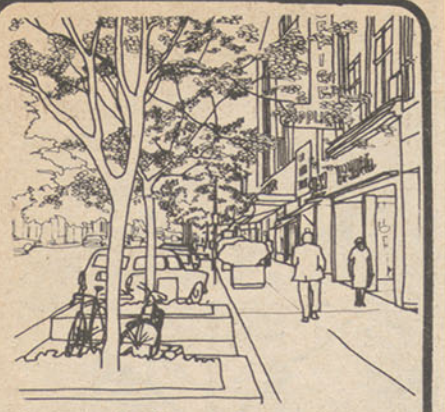
So Intertie arrived in Ann Arbor with a crushing burden of debt and no prior agreement with the city. "It's inexplicable," says Barr, "but Intertie bought the local company with no assurance that they would even be the operators. In their purchase agreement they didn't even specify that they would get the city's franchise." And Intertie never did — except on a month-by-month basis. "They were not performing." explains Barr. "We always thought they might fail."

Cablecasting commission executive director Charlene Ladd says commissioners "with wonderful hindsight" came to believe they had made a serious error in not "lowering the boom" on Intertie and refusing to renew its monthly franchise. Ladd says commission members believed the claims of Intertie representatives who held that no other U.S. company would buy into the Ann Arbor cable scene.

Intertie, heavily in debt and without a franchise, was shortly jolted out of its socks by a mysterious discrepancy in the Ann Arbor company books. Instead of having the 13,000 paying subscribers which they had thought they were buying, there were under 10,000. Shouting fraud, Intertie's angry owners took MCATV to court

What Hooks Plans to Do

- **Expand from 26 to 35 cable channels**
- **Bring in satellite programming**
- **Expand cable installation to city limits**
- **Invest $2 million in three years**
- **Provide new converter boxes for subscribers**
- **Provide a wider selection of subscription movies**
- **Improve subscription movie picture quality**
- **Build a new headquarters**



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over the matter of the missing subscribers. Former employees claim that for months before the sale MCATV officials had deliberately suppressed information about cancellation of subscriptions. But this theory was never tested in court since Intertie hastily pulled out of a legal confrontation with MCATV when its own questionable financial affairs began coming to light. Intertie was even hauled before the Securities and Exchange Commission and ordered to change its funding practices.

Before the end of 1975, the company was so hardpressed that it filed in a California bankruptcy court — and won a last chance to get on its feet. As part of its new court-monitored arrangement, it introduced Ann Arborites to Company Number Four, Xanadex, a paper entity that was a kind of reincarnation of the original firm. "The firm continued to stagger along," says Barr. It often couldn't even pay interest to Heller Oak and couldn't spend the funds that might have made a go of the local operation.

Then, early in 1979, Daniels and Associates began to court the cable commission. They offered to buy out Xanadex for 5.1 million dollars and to put the local company on its feet. Ben Hooks came to town, expecting to start to work. But there was still to be an agonizing year before Xanadex would transfer ownership to Daniels in 1980. Hooks had to cool his heels on the West Coast.

According to Barr, the main hitch was "the rough terms Daniels set the commission and City Council." Daniels wanted changes in the Ann Arbor franchise and ordinance, ending the commission's direct regulation of rates and lowering the annual franchise fee. And they wanted a fifteen year contract — a provision that was opposed vociferously by local attorney Elmer White, who favors tight municipal regulation of cable. The commission agreed to most of Daniels' terms, but its sticking point was on the matter of public access.

Public access channels used to be required in all cable systems by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in order to give the public direct use of this powerful new form of communication. Ann Arbor's original ordinance said the local operator must provide four public access channels plus equipment that people could use free of charge.

Over the decade many individuals and groups made enthusiastic use of the studios and free training to make their own video productions. The operation is now housed in a bustling studio upstairs in the new firehouse across from City Hall. The school system uses one channel heavily during the day and in the evening there are productions ranging from Transcendental Meditation to punk rock, cooking, and interviews with city officials. Although only two of the four channels are being used, the commission and City Council wanted to retain all four for future growth.

Daniels wanted to take over two of the four channels until its full thirty-five channels were operational. "They wanted everything their way," says Barr. "They kept saying, 'Here's our offer. Take it or leave it.' Then they'd stomp out, saying they were not coming back." He continues, "The first time they came back, the commission decided this was a bargaining device. We held out and finally struck a fairly reasonable compromise." It called for the commission to give Daniels two public access channels for two years and possibly longer, if needed.

The commission's agreements did not please some city council members who felt the city should keep tighter control. More months of wrangling ensued. In the end council held Daniels firmly to two years on the two public access channels, insisted on reviewing the franchise every five years of its fifteen-year life, and got Daniels to improve its disaster alarm service. Finally late in July both the ordinance and the franchise agreement were settled.

□

Ladd says the commission members feel hopeful about Daniels. The fact that the firm is a "cable-only" operator, a specialist in rescuscitating ailing systems, and has apparently developed an effective management formula may be the key at last to a successful local operation. The high marks Daniels receives from other cable operators and from current customers in other cities also may bode well for Ann Arbor. And the firm's emphasis on diversified programming via satellite looks as if it is riding on the crest of new technology.

In fact, according to cablecasting commissioner Barr, cable and satellites may soon be "all there is." Barr says flatly, "Broadcasting is dead. The only question is how long it'll take to stop kicking. The station and networks that don't pay attention to telecommunications are doomed."

Tom Coates of Michigan Media agrees that video technology is booming. He thinks even cable may someday become passé and points to experiments in western ranches, the Arctic, and Japan where people are receiving satellite transmissions directly with their own 3' parabolic antennas — "the dish in the attic," Coates calls it.

Somehow, if those "dishes" are ever sold widely, it seems likely that enterprising Ben Hooks will be part of the scene, with a dish in one hand and a movie package in the other. □

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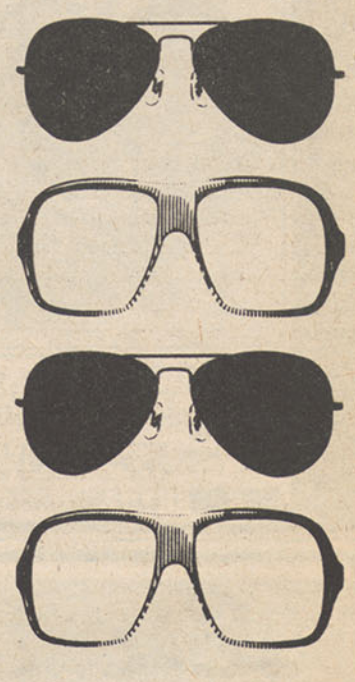

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The Questionable Choice.

How behind-the-scenes maneuverings led County Commissioners to choose Lloyd Powell as Public Defender

By TOM WIEDER

County Commissioner Kathy Fojtik describes the recent appointment of Lloyd Powell as Washtenaw County Public Defender as "the messiest appointment I've lived through in my eight years on the Board of Commissioners." Both Powell's supporters and his detractors speak in conspiratorial terms about the actions of people on the other side. There have been charges of opportunism, racism, jealousy, power-grabbing and test-rigging.

At the center of the controversy is Lloyd E. Powell, 52, who was appointed by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners in January to be the county's fourth public defender and the first black to hold that office since it was created in 1971. The public defender's office represents criminal defendants who cannot afford to hire private attorneys.

Powell is a retired career Army officer who rose to the rank of major. He served in a variety of administrative and logistical positions and spent over a decade overseas. Both his supporters and a number of his critics say he is hardworking and honest. Powell began his legal career after his military service. A graduate of Wayne State University Law School, his previous experience included about a year as an assistant public defender in the office he now heads. For two years before his appointment, he was an assistant Washtenaw County prosecutor.

Critics of Powell's appointment say that he is hardly the logical choice to shoulder the responsibility of defending the county's indigent criminal defendants. Some of those who knew Powell in 1977, when he was working in the public defender's office, believe he is motivated more by opportunism than by a real interest in that type of legal work. They cite as proof comments he allegedly made when he left the public defender's office to work as an assistant prosecutor.

Ron Carlson is an assistant state attorney general who worked in the public defender's office at the time Powell was leaving. He was also, briefly, an applicant for the job Powell got. Carlson says Powell told him he was leaving the defender's office because, "I can't morally defend guilty people. I can't stand the clients. They're scum." Judy Wood, an attorney who is married to Carlson and supervised Powell when she worked in the public defender's office, also recalls Powell making those statements. According to Wood, Powell also said, "I just don't think this is where I belong."

Michael Thomas, who recently resigned as an assistant public defender, says Powell made similar statements to him. "He stated that the reason he was leaving was that he had moral qualms about defending our clients, virtually all of whom were guilty in his opinion. He said that some time I would see the light and realize it is better to protect society."

Another former assistant public defender claims Powell said "he felt more comfortable doing prosecution-type work. Basically, he's a law-and-order type."

Powell's apparent distaste for representing indigent defendants at the time he left the public defender's office is in sharp contrast to the zealous efforts he undertook to capture the top position in that office when it became vacant.

Powell left no stone unturned in his pursuit of the position. Not merely content to *apply* for a job, Powell *campaigned* for it. He personally lobbied most or all of the judges. Like the stereotypical black politician, he spent his Sundays visiting black churches in the county, asking for support among the parishioners and urging them to make their support known to their county commissioners.

Powell seems to have been successful in lobbying the circuit court judges. The judges' role in the Powell appointment has led some to question the propriety of their being involved in the decision-making process at all.

Selection of a new public defender begins when the county commissioners name a

three-person selection committee to screen applicants and forward recommendations to the circuit court judges. The judges are supposed to indicate which candidates meet with their approval, and the commissioners will select one of the approved candidates to be public defender.

The selection committee this time included Commissioner Floyd Taylor, U-M Law School Professor Peter Westen, and local attorney George Stewart. Narrowing the list of applicants to seven, they had those seven go through a county personnel procedure known as the assessment center. The assessment center includes a battery of tests and simulations designed to test applicants' skills under life-like situations.

The tests for the public defender position included a videotaped interview with a "client" and a group discussion session. According to Stewart, Powell's assessment center rating was the lowest received by any of the seven applicants. But mysteriously the tape of Powell's interview disappeared from former County Administrator Michael Gotthainer's office and has not been found.

The selection committee reviewed the assessment center results and interviewed all the applicants. Discussion then centered on three applicants: Powell; William Caprathe, a four-year veteran of the Bay County Public Defender's Office; and John Minock, who heads the Juvenile Division of the Legal Aid and Defender Association of Detroit.

Both Stewart and Westen had serious reservations about appointing a prosecutor to be public defender. They were concerned that appointing a prosecutor would undermine client confidence in the office.

Steward explained his concern this way: "I felt strongly that it is not appropriate to have a current member of the prosecutor's staff become public defender. You need the appearance of an evenhanded adversary system. Hiring a prosecutor to be defender violates that perception. Public defender offices have a difficult image problem with clients. They're viewed as part of the system designed to punish low-income clients. They're "state" attorneys. Clients must have trust in and respect for the attorneys representing them."

Westen shared many of Stewart's concerns. "It's a mistake to select someone identified with the prosecutor. It's hard enough to convince defendants that public defenders are real lawyers. They're viewed as part of the state, just like the prosecutor and the judge. Many of the people he will be defending will be people he had prosecuted."

U-M Law Professor Peter Westen says, "The judges' behavior was puzzling. They vetoed Caprathe and Minock without reference to their ability, just because they didn't know them. I think they exercised their veto power inappropriately."

Stewart voted not to pass Powell's name on to the judges. Westen ranked Powell third of the three finalists and agreed to pass along his name with the understanding that he should be appointed only if his role as public defender did not involve him directly in litigation.

Floyd Taylor enthusiastically supported Powell. He felt that Powell had good ideas for running the office and that putting a black in the position would be valuable.

□

Doubts about Powell were made worse in some people's minds by their doubts about the judges' role in the selection process. Peter Westen feels that it is totally inappropriate for the judges to have any role in choosing the public defender who will litigate before them. In his opinion, "judges want pliant, compatible, non-aggressive lawyers who won't make appeals, press for rulings or go beyond 5 PM. They'd like every lawyer to be pliant, but they have no say over prosecutors or private attorneys."

At least one judge, Kenneth Bronson of the 14th District Court, which covers Washtenaw County outside of Ann Arbor,

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agrees with those who say the judges shouldn't be involved in the selection process. "I don't want a public defender to feel beholden to the judges. There might be a 'chilling effect' on the public defender's actions if he owes his position to the judges. I don't appoint the prosecutor. Why the hell should I appoint the defense attorney?"

It was widely assumed that the judges would review the three finalists, eliminating any that were deemed "unacceptable" and passing along the remaining names to the commissioners. But what the judges eventually did was simply tell the commissioners that they preferred Powell. Despite repeated requests, they never indicated what, if anything, was wrong with the two candidates the selection committee had ranked higher, Caprathe and Minock.

The assistant public defenders became convinced that in Powell the judges had found just the sort of pliant, nonaggressive public defender they were looking for. They unanimously opposed Powell's appointment; their representative appeared before the Board of Commissioners.

Says Powell, "You've got a lot of people who are really pseudo, limousine-intellectual elite types, so called liberals, where, if someone has ascended to their level, this same group will turn on this person and attack him."

One complaint raised about the process that led to Powell's selection was that the judges never even interviewed the other finalists for the job. They apparently relied only on their personal knowledge of Powell and the resumes of the other two. Peter Westen says, "The judges' behavior was puzzling. They vetoed Caprathe and Minock without reference to their ability, just because they didn't know them. I think they exercised their veto power inappropriately."

When the judges presented the Board of Commissioners with just one name, instead of several to choose from, a number of commissioners were taken back. The commissioners decided to delay the appointment until they had a chance to ask the judges about their actions and to interview the three final candidates themselves.

But Powell's heavy campaigning cut short those efforts. At the next meeting of the Board of Comissioners, an impressive array of prominent blacks, some with strong United Auto Workers and Democratic Party connections, was on hand to support Powell. The judges reaffirmed their support for Powell, although they never explained why the other two candidates should not be considered by the commissioners.

According to Commissioner Meri Lou Murray, this dual support for Powell made it difficult not to appoint him. The judges implicitly threatened not to appoint the public defender's office to represent indigent clients unless the judges' choice — i.e., Powell — got the job. Powell's support by representatives of poor and black groups made it difficult not to choose him for a position representing clients who are all poor and heavily black. The decision to interview the three finalists was rescinded, and Powell was appointed. Only Commissioners Kathy Fojtik and Margaret Kuebler dissented.

The controversy surrounding Powell did not end with his appointment. Powell appointed another former prosecutor, Nathan Hult, as his chief assistant, giving ammunition to the critics who say Powell is prosecution-oriented. Hult, who was a prosecutor for several years in Idaho, has been in Michigan only a few months and has no experience in ciminal defense work.

□

In Lloyd Powell's view, if there was a conspiracy involved in the public defender selection process, it was working against him, not for him. The main reason he went out and campaigned for the job was because the deck was stacked against him, he says.

According to Powell, the stacking of the deck began with George Stewart's placement on the selection committee. He alleges that Stewart volunteered to serve on

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the committee for the express purpose of preventing Powell from getting the job, although he doesn't say why Stewart would want to do this. Stewart says that this is "absolutely untrue," that he doesn't think he was even aware Powell was seeking the job at the time he was named to the committee.

Powell feels that the main reason for the assistant public defenders' opposition to him was ordinary jealousy. He points out that several of the original applicants for the job were assistant public defenders whose friends in the office resented anyone else getting the job. Still, Powell's charge doesn't explain why most of the assistants seemed to prefer either Caprathe or Minock, neither of whom works in the local office.

Powell suggests that this jealous opposition to his candidacy may have resulted in tampering with the assessment center tests on which he did so poorly. He implies that the tests' contents may have been leaked to other applicants for the job, as part of an effort to undermine his chances. "If you were tilting against someone, or if you were part of a fix — and you can never rule out the possibility — then you can certainly use a test like that to discredit somebody."

Powell also vigorously denies making the negative statements about public defender work that have been attributed to him. "That is scurrilous slander. It is calumny. It's unworthy of response. I am saying that I have never felt that way; I have never said that. The people who say that I said that are merely a part of the dirty trickster campaign tactics to discredit me."

Powell also rejects the notion that because he is a former prosecutor, he will be less inclined to provide vigorous representation for criminal defendants. He says his goal is to provide the best representation possible, but he disagrees with some attorneys who've worked in the office on how to do that. He says that some of the attorneys are so convinced that the police, prosecutors, and judges are part of a conspiracy to "get" their clients that they do things which hurt their own clients. In an effort to "beat the system," they push some issues too far and provoke a reaction which punishes the defendant. Powell says he will provide a more mature, balanced approach, but he won't "sell out" the clients.

For instance, Powell says some attorneys want to go to trial just to have a chance to score a victory over the prosecution. In some cases, Powell argues, the result is a guilty verdict and a harsher sentence than the defendant would have received if the attorney had plea-bargained.

Not surprisingly, the judges also dispute the rather sinister characterization of their

Indigent appeals: another mistake

Some observers say Lloyd Powell's appointment as public defender is just part of a larger pattern in which indigent defendants are denied effective legal representation. They point to the handling of appeals of indigent defendants as another example of the pattern.

Indigent persons convicted of a crime are entitled to a publicly-paid attorney for an appeal. The traditional method of providing appellate counsel was the same as on the trial level. The judge would appoint a local private attorney to represent the defendant. These attorneys are paid only $200 to $300, which some observers say is an inadequate amount to do an effective appeal.

An alternative to this system is the State Appellate Defender's Office (SADO). SADO is considered by many to offer highly effective counsel, but it is almost never appointed by Washtenaw Circuit Court judges to handle appeals for local indigents. Norris Thomas, a former Ann Arbor City Councilman and Chief Deputy Defender at SADO, says that local judges don't appoint SADO because it does too good a job.

Says Thomas, "I think we probably are well ahead of general practitioners in setting new precedents and making new law. We're considered too critical. We raise issues that the judges don't want raised. If our points are accepted by the Court of Appeals, it can lead to personal embarrassment for the judges."

From 1970 to 1976, SADO received an average of 15 appointments a year from Washtenaw County. Since 1977, SADO has received a total of only six appointments from local judges. Thomas believes that the local judges were embarrassed when higher courts reversed a significant number of their decisions in appeals initiated by SADO.

"That's absolute baloney," responds Judge Patrick Conlin. "That's what they want you to believe. It doesn't

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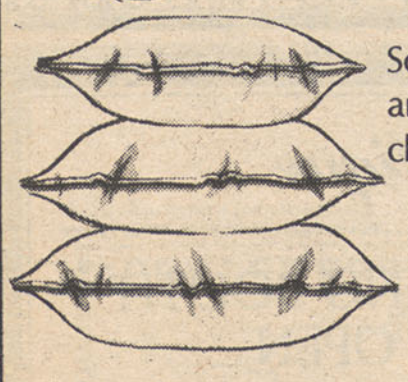

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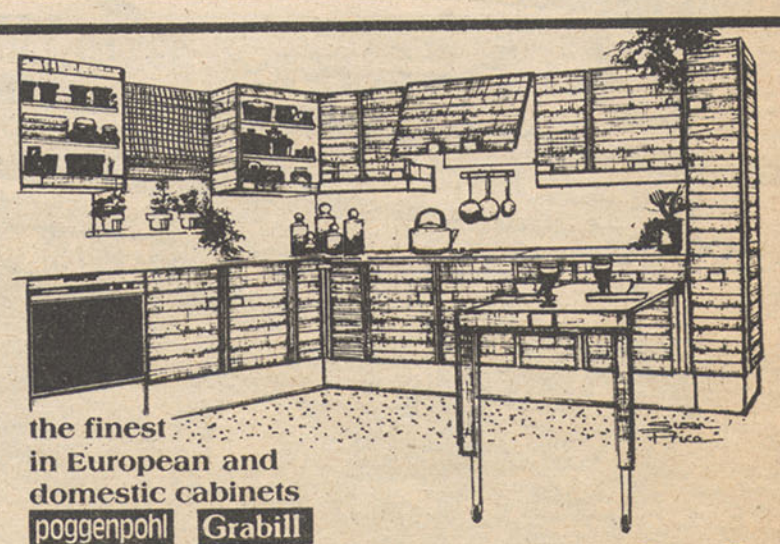

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motives. According to Circuit Court Judge Patrick Conlin, Powell was favored because he was someone the judges knew, someone they had seen try cases as both a prosecutor and a public defender. The judges also felt that Powell had demonstrated administrative ability.

"Powell being a black also appealed to us," said Conlin. "A high percentage of the clients are black. We had heard that the existing public defender's office was racist." Conlin cited no specific evidence of this alleged racism except to note that "orginally there were black attorneys down there. Suddenly there was nothing but white attorneys down there. We felt the office needed some credibility with the black people."

Does Powell think the opposition to him was racist? He says, "You can't rule it out as a factor. There is something I call the Robinson Crusoe/Friday or the Lone Ranger/Tonto syndrome. There are people that like you and get along with you when you're Tonto or Friday, but if you aspire to get on the white horse and yell 'Hi, Ho, Silver' and the roles are going to be reversed, it instills a lot of apprehension.

"You've got a lot of people who are really pseudo, limousine-intellectual elite types, so-called liberals, where, if someone has ascended to their level, this same group will turn on this person and attack him. I don't rule that out as a possibility."

Carl Shaner, Powell's predecessor as public defender, finds the racism charge ridiculous. He argues that it would be very strange for attorneys, if they were racist, to work voluntarily in a place where nearly half their clients are black. He also points out that there have been no complaints about racism from clients or members of the black community in the past.

□

The wisdom of Lloyd Powell's appointment can only be judged by the record he compiles in the office. Only two things seem certain. The controversy over his selection may focus more attention on the operation of the public defender's office then ever before. Secondly, the selection process itself does not have the credibility and support it should have with many of those affected by it. □

by local judges?

make any difference to us whether we're reversed or not." Conlin says the local judges stopped appointing SADO because they were charging the county too much by billing for more hours of work than the local judges felt was reasonable.

According to Thomas, however, SADO has had state funding since 1976 and doesn't charge the counties anything for its services. Conlin said he was unaware that SADO's services are now free and sees no reason not to use them. He may not have any choice. A law passed by the Legislature in 1978, but not yet fully implemented, would require each county in the state to give 25% of its criminal appeals to SADO.

This could save Washtenaw County a significant amount of money. The county budgets nearly $30,000 a year to pay local attorneys to handle appeals. With SADO handling a significant portion of these appeals, this figure could be substantially reduced.

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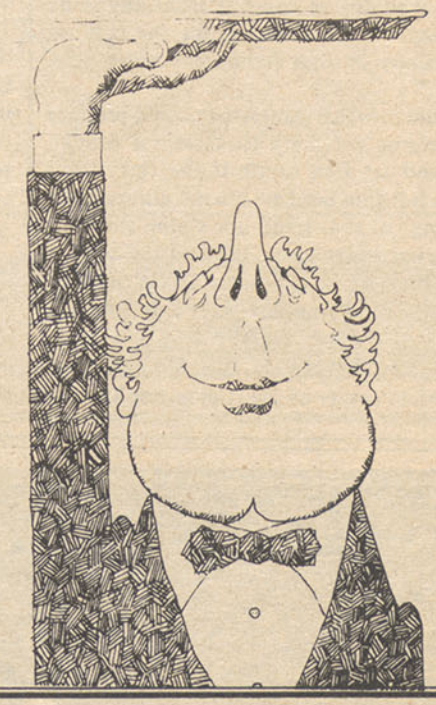

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How More Is Less

Commercial movie theaters are multiplying in Ann Arbor like rabbits. But the quality and selection of films, say movie buffs, continues to decline. Here's why.

By SUSAN ISAACS NISBETT

Over the past several years, Ann Arbor movie houses have divided and multiplied like amoebas. In addition to the four screens at The Movies at Briarwood, both the State and Mann Village theaters are now fourplexes. The Ann Arbor Theater on Fifth Avenue will become a twoplex this month. Add the Campus and Wayside Theaters, and you come up with a grand total of sixteen theaters serving the Ann Arbor area, eleven more than just a decade ago.

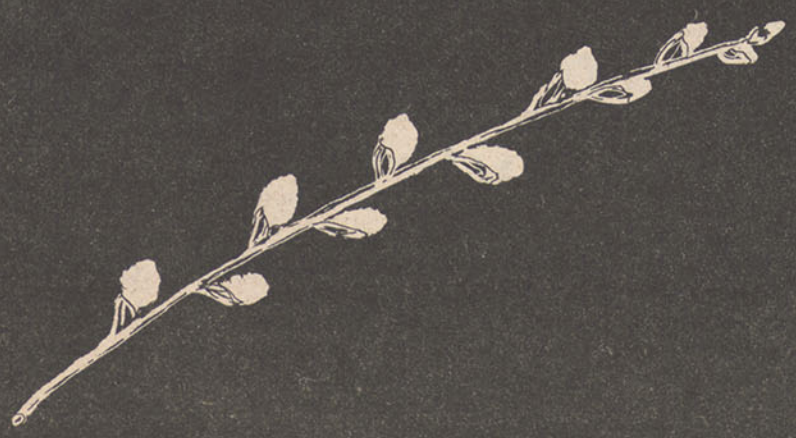
Sixteen theaters serving a small city like Ann Arbor make it sound like a movie-lover's paradise. But it's not. Film buffs are increasingly complaining that the closest most good foreign and quality low-budget films get to Ann Arbor is a review in the *New York Times.* For instance, not a single one of the five films nominated for the 1979 "Best Foreign Film" Academy Award has yet to come to Ann Arbor, nor have award-winning films like *Madame Rosa* or *Black and White in Color* played at first-run theaters.

WUOM film critic and U-M communications professor Frank Beaver agrees that there's less quality in spite of more films available in town. "Ironically," he comments, "the situation for the cultural community in Ann Arbor has never been worse."

He contends that Ann Arbor could produce the volume necessary to sustain a foreign film and art film house if the right films came. But film bookers are not aiming their offerings to that small but viable audience in this university town. Bill Spurlin, booker for United Artists Theaters, which includes the Briarwood fourplex, says that Ann Arbor is a student market whose average moviegoer is between 18 and 24. Bob Goodrich, owner of the Ann Arbor Theater downtown, places that age a little lower, at 14 to 19 years. Neither age range is particularly interested in quality adult films, say those responsible for booking. "The big interest today," says UA's Spurlin, "is in comedies like *The Blues Brothers,* due for release this summer."

Even if local house managers wanted to cater to that audience hungering for foreign and art films, they no longer have the authority. "In the old days," Beaver notes, "the city manager at Butterfield used to go into Detroit weekly to discuss what films to bring here." A good many were foreign or art films destined for the Campus Theater. Barry Miller, Butterfield's current Ann Arbor manager, has no such power. His autonomy is limited to choosing films for midnight shows and suggesting occasional second-run films for open spots. His choice for those will be based on figures from the "opposition report" which details a film's success and length of run at competing theaters. Other local theater managers have even less authority than Miller. Few are movie buffs, and while they may suggest extending a film's engagement based on its latest box-office draw, the films themselves are booked by outsiders.

According to Beaver, Ann Arbor's situation regarding first-run movies reflects economic changes which swept the movie industry in the Seventies, a period when social comment films like *Five Easy Pieces* and *The Graduate* were replaced in popularity by more expensive escapist films — disaster movies like *The Towering Inferno* and *Jaws,* and nostalgic movies like *American Graffiti* and *Summer of '42.* Escapist movies appealed to a wider audience, and as people flocked back to the theaters, the studios began to pour ever-greater amounts of money into a smaller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and smaller number of such high-budget pictures. (The major Hollywood studios now turn out a combined total of about 100 movies a year.) Under the pressure of fierce competition for these films, the blind booking system evolved, in which exhibitors agreed to take films sight unseen. Sometimes movies were booked before they were made. (Butterfield's Barry Miller, for example has known for a year already that the Campus would have *Star Wars* sequel *The Empire Strikes Back* coming this summer.)

To acquire first-run films, bookers submit sealed bids to the distributors. They agree to pay the distributor a guaranteed sum for a run of a specific number of weeks in a specific theater — no matter what their box office returns. After overhead is subtracted from the grosses, 90 percent of the proceeds goes to the distributor and 10 percent to the exhibitor. If the box is poor, the distributor gets the guaranteed sum, and the theater takes the loss.

Theaters can lose a lot of money under this system. One theater owner in Oklahoma City lost $25,000 on Woody Allen's *Interiors.* Expecting a social comedy, he received instead a serious, brooding psychological film.

With today's predictably saleable movies based on successful formulas, multiplex owners don't need to run art films except as occasional fillers. They feel far more secure with well-known hits like *The Rose, The Electric Horseman,* and *Ten,* which have bounced from one Ann Arbor theater to the next, frequently without even leaving town. Big Hollywood films generally come with big promotional campaigns that increasingly include TV commercials. Foreign films do not — which hurts them, because a film's success hinges on the public having heard about it.

Continued on page 36

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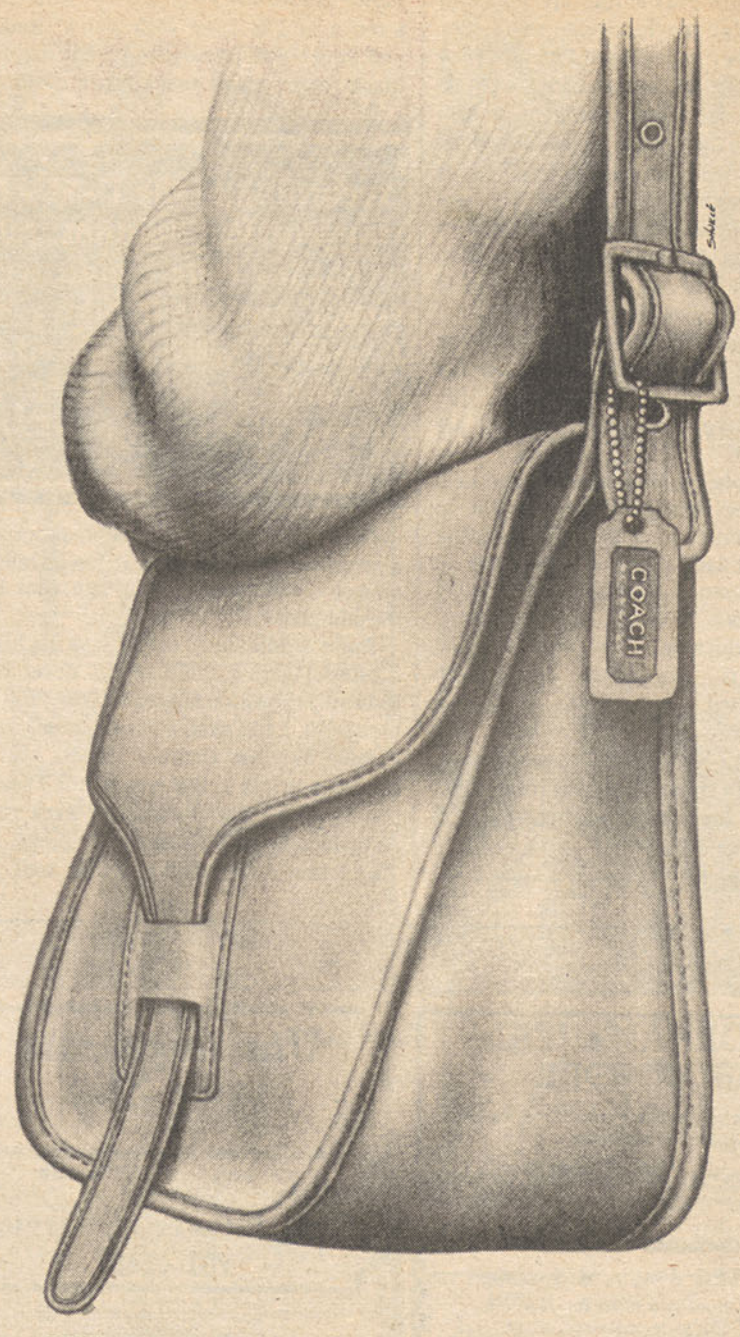

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For this very reason, says theater owner Goodrich, many distributors are reluctant to release foreign movies to the Ann Arbor market until they have played Detroit. They count on Detroit media coverage to generate audience attendance here in Ann Arbor, which they view as a suburb of Detroit.

Because foreign films do uneven business in Detroit, they aren't booked there with any consistency. In this vicious circle, Ann Arbor is deprived of potentially viable foreign films or gets them only belatedly. No wonder film buffs complain that by the time foreign films and small, quality domestic ones reach Ann Arbor, the reviews they depend on for information are long forgotten.

Actually, foreign films aren't a bad deal for exhibitors. Because they cost less to produce and don't have five-million-dollar advertising budgets, they are available to exhibitors at more favorable percentages than American movies. The economic package on which the film company must recover costs is much smaller, and a 50-50 or 35-65 distributor-exhibitor split may replace the more usual 90-10 formula. The more favorable percentage for the theater is balanced by a much smaller total take. "You're just dividing a different entity," says Goodrich.

But why should a theater owner book foreign pictures like *Madame Rosa* when a movie like Monty Python's *Life of Brian* or a rerun of *The Sting* with Robert Redford and Paul Newman can keep the house in the black for an entire year? When dollars are the sole criterion, a first-run blockbuster or a rerun with legs to carry it for awhile will almost always knock a foreign film from the competition.

According to the U-M's Frank Beaver, Ann Arbor's first-run movie situation reflects economic changes which swept the movie industry in the Seventies, a period when social comment films like *Five Easy Pieces* and *The Graduate* were replaced in popularity by more expensive escapist films like *The Towering Inferno* and nostalgic movies like *Summer of '42*.

Butterfield's Barry Miller says it's his understanding that the Campus never really did that well with its foreign films. And Bob Goodrich adds that a large, single-screen theater like the Campus couldn't afford grosses as small as the Ann Arbor Theater's disappointing $1800 on a one-week run of Bertolucci's poorly-received *Luna*. The Ann Arbor Theater did do well with Bergman's *Autumn Sonata* and with *Wife-Mistress*, starring the alluring and much-publicized Laura Antonelli. They both grossed about $4,000 the first week and $3,200 the second. Goodrich netted about $2,800 out of $4,000. Because of payments on his recently-purchased theater, he adds, "I'm just cutting it at that level."

Goodrich's motives aren't altruistic, but the fact that he is the only independent theater operator in town may force him to help out foreign film fans. His Ann Arbor Theater will close this month for remodeling into two theaters, one seating 350, the other 250. Goodrich says he will of necessity book more foreign films in the smaller theater. With 23 screens in Michigan, he isn't big enough to always compete for the big movies with Mann (more than 300 theaters nationwide), United Artists (over 900) and Butterfield (95 Michigan theaters). He admits, "I'd rather play all Robert Redford and Barbra Streisand movies, but against the competition, I'll probably find the art films the best alternative I can book, on one screen at least."

UA's Bill Spurlin said his company may test Ann Arbor's foreign film audience with "a list of selected pictures," and Butterfield's Barry Miller said it's possible one of the State's four screens will play foreign films — but not as a steady diet. Mann Theater manager David Simpkins, who came from Knoxville, Tennessee, a year ago, had good success with a weekend foreign film series in Knoxville. If convinced a similar market were here, he might suggest a similar program to Mann's Eastern District booker.

But unless one of these theaters really does begin to change its policies, Ann Arborites will have to wait for many quality films to show up on the U-M film societies' calendars. In first-run theaters, highly promoted movies will continue to win out over foreign films like *The Tin Drum*, nominated for an Academy Award, or *A Simple Story*, movies which deserve to be seen in a town like Ann Arbor. □

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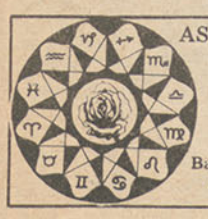
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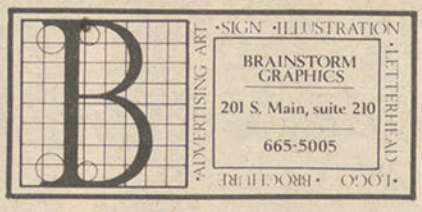

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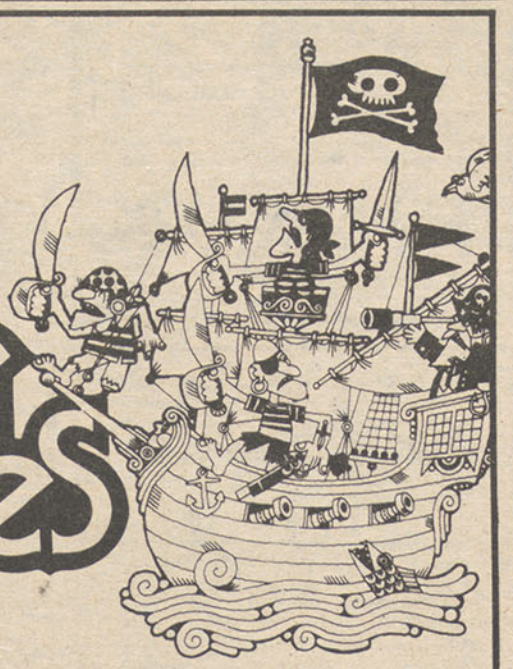

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CALENDAR

A selection of Ann Arbor events by our staff and contributors, with separate listings for exhibits and for music at local night spots.

Calendar consultants include Lee Berry and Evans Mirageas.

TO PUBLICIZE EVENTS IN THE CALENDAR

Mail press releases to Mary Hunt, Calendar Editor, *ANN ARBOR OBSERVER*, 206 S. Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. **PLEASE** do not phone in information. With few exceptions, events must be within Ann Arbor. Always include the address and telephone of a contact person. The calendar is published a month ahead; notices for May events, for example, must arrive in April. All material received by the 15th of April will be used as space permits; material submitted later may not get in.

MUSIC AT NIGHT SPOTS

by Lee Berry

These bookings came from information available at press time. Last minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who will be playing, it's advisable to call ahead.

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APR. 3: "Save the Whales" Benefit for Greenpeace featuring *Steve Newhouse & the Nukeabillies.* Raucous, rowdy rock'n'roll by the band that does it best. From Merle Haggard to Chuck Berry to Grateful Dead. APR. 4-5: *Red Clay Ramblers.* Five-piece string band returns following their triumphant performance at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival in January. Straight from the hills of North Carolina. APR. 11-12: To be announced. APR. 17: *Biza Sampa African Dance Ensemble.* African native Sampa and his troupe relate history and mythology through traditional tribal dance. APR. 18-19: *Bob Lucas Duo.* Features Bill Schwartz. Both are talented multi-instrumentalists. Expect to hear guitars, banjos, fiddles, mandolins and even sitar. EVERY WEDNESDAY (except Apr. 23 & 30): Hoot night. Open mike.

THE BLIND PIG, 208 S. First, 994-4780.
APR. 4-5: *Honey Boy.* Five-piece rock. Reportedly the closest thing to straight-ahead rock'n'roll the Pig's seen in ages. APR. 11-12: *John Mooney Band.* Convincing Delta blues that belies both John's white skin and youthful age. Strongly influenced by Son House and Robert Johnson. Dobro, piano and bass. APR. 18-19: *Tapert-Sparling Band.* Combines the brilliant, sensitive songwriting talents of Don Tapert, a long-time Flood's favorite, with the powerhouse piano of Tim Sparling. Not showy, just good. APR. 25-26: *Dick Siegel.*

THE COUNT OF ANTIPASTO, 1140 S. University, 668-8411.
APR. 4-5: *Joe Summers Trio.* Light, listenable jazz led by fleet-fingered guitarist Summers. APR. 11-12: *Footloose.* Offbeat-ish bluegrass and country. Sometimes serious; sometimes silly. Strings and harmony vocals. APR. 18-19: *Cartunes.* See Star Bar. APR. 25-26: *Semblance.* Straight-ahead jazz and funk fronted by Dana Gross' saxophone and Dave Mason's lead guitar.

DEL RIO, 121 W. Washington, 761-2530.
APR. 6: *Changes.* Jazz standards with a Latin feel. Includes Ann Arbor veterans Norman Shobey and Rick Burgess, among others. Was house band during the Earle's early months.

THE EARLE, 122 W. Washington, 994-0211.
APR. 4-5: *Gary Haverkate Trio.* Detroiter Haverkate may be remembered as the pianist in Sam Sanders' Visions. With Dan Kolton on bass and Larry Bell on drums. APR. 11-12: *Howard White Trio.* A fine, inventive trio borrowing Howard and also Dave Koether from Melodioso and Andy Sacks from Misbehavin'. APR. 18-19: *Joe Summers Trio.* See Count of Antipasto. APR. 25-26: *Wendell Harrison-Pam Wise.* Harrison explores the boundaries of his instruments — saxaphones, clarinet, and flute. Accompanied by Wise's piano and vocal stylings.

MR. FLOOD'S PARTY, 120 W. Liberty, 994-5940.
APR. 1: *Emerald City.* See Star Bar. APR. 2: *Joe Summers Trio.* Mainstream jazz at Flood's? Encouraging to see. APR. 3: *Trees.* Original-sounding sextet, characterized by rich female vocal harmonies and solid, flute-led accompaniment. A patchwork of styles. APR. 4-5: *Steve Newhouse & the Nukeabillies.* See Ark. APR. 6: *Sailcatz.* See Star Bar. APR. 7-8: *Martin Simmons & Friends.* Capable of almost anything musically, Martin plays to the audience — and pleases it. Whatever the style, he makes it funky. He also plays keyboards and flute with Bigfoot. APR. 9: *Steve Newhouse & the Nukeabillies.* See Ark. APR. 10: *Stark Raving Revue.* Blends blues, rock and jazz. One of leader Peter Stark's first appearances with new band. APR. 11-12: *Trees.* See above. APR. 13-15: *Emerald City.* See Star Bar. APR. 16: *Joe Summers Trio.* See Count of Antipasto. APR. 17: *Footloose.* See Count of Antipasto. APR. 18-19: *Arbor Grass.* Bluegrass-country quintet. Great drinking music. APR. 20: *Sailcatz.* See Star Bar. APR. 21-22: *Martin Simmons & Friends.* See above. APR. 23: *Steve Newhouse & the Nukeabillies.* See Ark. APR. 24-26: *Dick Siegel & His Ministers of Melody.* A tremendous tunesmith and lyricist, Dick leads what is simply the swingingest, most danceable band to emerge from the area in years. New LP, "Snap!" should be in the stores by the end of the month. APR. 27-29: *Emerald City.* See Star Bar. APR. 30: *Footloose.* See Count of Antipasto.

NEW OLD BRICK, 109½ N. Main, 761-5451.
APR. 5: *Melodioso.* Infectious, Latin-inspired island music. Recently energized by the addition of saxophonist Pete Kahn. APR. 11: *Danny Spencer & Friends.* Special homecoming program featuring Kevin O'Connell and Dan Kolton, among others. Night begins with listenable jazz and progresses to more danceable material. APR. 12: *Two Guitars, Bass and Drums.* Mostly original art-rock band in its debut performance. Includes former Destroy All Monsters Ben & Larry Miller plus Gerhard Schlanzky and Doug Peterson. APR. 19: *Contactworks.* Dance concert by a touring company from Minnesota. Contact improvisation and more. 8 PM APR. 20: *Ron Brooks-Dave Kozal Big Band.* A twelve-piece all-star group consisting of saxers Mike Blanchard, Pete Kahn and others. Original arrangements by trombonist Kozal. 8 PM MAY 2-3: *Men Working.* Ann Arbor's five-man contact improvisation dance ensemble.

RICK'S AMERICAN CAFE, 611 Church Street, 996-2747.
APR. 1: *Vantage Point.* See Second Chance. APR. 2: *Ann Arbor Quartet.* Intricate yet accessible contemporary fusion-jazz. Though he plays behind the talents of Randy Tessier on bass, Rick Jacobi on guitar and Andy Adamson on keyboards, drummer Don Cooley may be the key to this group. APR. 3: *Sailcatz.* See Star Bar. APR. 4-5: *Progressive Blues Band* featuring Willie D. Warren. Fiery urban blues from the Detroit-based quintet. Distinctive lead guitar interplay between Warren and Lowell Cauffiel. APR. 7: To be announced. APR. 8: *Eclipse Open Jam Session.* Hot jazz and related matters performed by many of the area's best players. Musicians are invited to participate. David Swain directs traffic onstage and calls the tunes. APR. 9: To be announced. APR. 10-12: *Blue Front Persuaders.* Swingin', stingin' rhythm & blues

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CALENDAR /continued

that sets your toes a-tappin' uncontrollably. Named in honor of the illustrious Blue Front magazine store on Packard Street. APR. 14: *Trees.* See Floods. APR. 15: to be announced. APR. 16: *Emerald City.* See Star Bar. APR. 17: *Cartunes.* See Star Bar. APR. 18-20: *Melodioso.* See New Old Brick. APR. 21: *Son Seals Blues Band.* See Events. APR. 22: *The Urbations.* Roots rock'n'roll. Features David Swain on guitar and shout vocals. Knocked everybody out at the Film Festival Afterbash last month. APR. 23: *Semblance.* See Count of Antipasto. APR. 24: *Dick Siegel & His Ministers of Melody.* See Flood's APR. 25-26. *J. B. Ritchie's Liquid Chrome Band.* More Chicago-style blues by Chicago bluesmen. APR. 28-29: *Stuart Mitchell.* A man, a guitar and a ton of wit. Literally had people laughing through their tears his last time here. APR. 30: *Melodioso.* See New Old Brick.

SECOND CHANCE, 516 E. Liberty, 994-5350. APR. 1: *Steve Nardella Band.* Solid, authentic, old-time rock'n'roll dance music. Drummer John Hildebrand has moved over from Nymbus, joining wildman bassist Ted Harley, who played his upright while lying on his back, legs kicking. last time out. APR. 2-6: *Cinema.* Top-40 rock. APR. 7: *Magazine.* Includes two former Masquerade members. Top-40 covers and originals. APR. 8: *Cubes.* Raw, tough Detroit new wave with plenty of punch. Female lead vocalist conveys tension without irritating. APR. 9-13: *Dittilies.* Vintage Fifties and Sixties rock. APR. 14-15: *Heaven 17* with guests VVT. New Bamboo-managed rock outfit from Detroit. Lead singer is Knack's Doug Feiger's brother. APR. 16-19: *Foxx.* Top-40 covers and originals. Foxx has played the Chance since it opened in August 1974. APR. 20: *Cub Koda & the Points.* Middle-of-the-wave rock led by the blazing guitar of Cub Koda, formerly of Brownsville Station. APR. 24: *Sonic's Rendezvous Band.* These guys helped redefine rock'n'roll ten and fifteen years ago (in groups like MC5, Stooges, Rationals and Up) and they still play it as well as anybody. APR. 22: *Ellen McIlwaine.* One of the gutsiest women ever to pick up an electric guitar. And she has a throat to match. With guests Vantage Point! APR. 23-26: *Vantage Point.* Jazz saxophonist, blues pianist and rock guitarist meet and (with rhythm section) make rollicking, danceable old wave rock music together. APR. 27: *The Look.* Detroit's entry in the power-pop sweepstakes. APR. 28-29: To be announced. APR. 30-MAY 4: *Steve Nardella Band.* See above.

STAR BAR, 109 N. Main, 769-0109. APR. 1: *Gaga & the Trendwoods.* A mystery band of sorts, rumored to include Dick Siegel, George Bedard, Mark "Mr. B." Braun, and various other guests. APR. 3: *Blue Front Persuaders.* See Rick's APR. 4-5: *Dick Siegel & His Ministers of Melody.* See Flood's. APR. 10-12: *Cartunes.* A young, tremendously energetic rock band from suburban Detroit, specializing in guitar dazzle. Material ranges from Allman Brothers to CSN&Y. APR. 17: *Emerald City.* Another yound band that's still excited about playing. Album-oriented rock mixed with Motown favorites. Guitarist Sam Clark sparkles. APR. 18-19: *Trees.* See Flood's APR. 24: *Sailcatz.* Blues & rock stew. Carefully selected old and new material put to good use by trained, talented musicians. APR. 25-26: *Driving Blind.* A straight-ahead rock band created out of the remnants of the Tucker Blues Band, an Ann Arbor fixture for many years.

EVENTS

1 TUESDAY

Classes on Memory at the Turner Clinic

Classes for older people focus on improving personal memory difficulties and finding ways to help friends and relatives. Participants learn problem-solving techniques and exercises to improve the memory.

10 AM, Tuesdays, Turner Geriatric Clinic, 1010 Wall Street. 764-6831. Free. April 1 class on drugs and memory; April 8, diseases and memory; April 15, nutrition and memory, April 22, current research on memory; April 29, effects of depression, stress, and loss of memory; May 6, panel of people who use their memories professionally.

Earth Day Environmental Film Series

"At the Crossroads," "The Right Whale: An Endangered Species," and "AA Great White Bird."

7 PM, Angell Hall, Auditorium B. Free.

Harry Chapin with special guest Tom Chapin

Singer-songwriter Harry Chapin is, in addition, an articulate spokesman, activist and chairman of the Food Policy Center in Washington. In this capacity, he performs nearly 200 benefits each year to benefit various hunger relief organizations. In this instance, Chapin's fee and additional surplus funds will be donated to local hunger assistance organizations, Oxfam (one of the few groups to be allowed into Cambodia) and the Food Policy Center. Chapin is known to many as the voice singing "Cat's in the Cradle", "Taxi" and others. He is likely to perform together with brother Tom, trading the solo spotlight back and forth. Sponsored by the committee Concerned with World Hunger.

— L.B.

8 PM, Michigan Theater. Tickets $7.50 & $8.50 at Discount Records, Aura Sounde and Wherehouse Records, Ypsilanti.

University Chamber Orchestra

Excerpts from Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro, Rossini's Barber of Seville,* performed by soprano Carlotta Wilsen and baritone Les Guinn, two U-M music faculty experienced in but not currently known for opera. Definitely worthwhile.

8 PM, Hill Auditorium. Free.

2 WEDNESDAY

Blood pressure screening clinic

U-M nursing school students and faculty will take blood pressure and give information on hypertension related to heart failure, strokes, and kidney disease. Sponsored by Nursing Class of '81.

9 AM - 4 PM, U-M Diag. Free.

Travel in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Noon. Brownbag at the International Center, *603 E. Madison. Free. 764-9310.*

Earth Day Environmental Film Series

The Renewable Tree" and "Where Did the Colorado Go?"

7 PM, Angell Hall, Auditorium B. Free.

Running Clinic: Injury Prevention and Health

Talk by a podiatrist.

7 PM, Tortoise and Hare, 213 E. Liberty, Free. 769-9510.

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Last year's appearance of the Baltimore Symphony was the sleeper concert of the year, according to WUOM's Evans Mirageas, who said it "blew the auditorium apart." Program includes the Festival Chorus singing Borodin's "Polovtzian Dances."

8:30 PM, Hill Auditorium. Tickets ($4-12) at University Musical Society, Burton Tower.

3 THURSDAY

Spring break films for children

10 AM, Ann Arbor Public Library. A 40-minute showing for preschoolers includes the children's classics "The Little Engine That Could" and "Madeline." 3 PM, kindergarten-sixth grade showing, an hour long, includes "How the Elephant Got His Trunk" and "It's Tough to be a Bird." Free. No advance registration.

Earth Day Environmental Film Series

"Tragedy or Triumph?," "The New Alchemists," and "Farming the Land."

7 PM, Angell Hall, Auditorium B. Free.

"Junk Food as World Hunger": World Hunger Week

Microbiologist Dr. Michael Jacobsen, director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest and co-editor of *Food for People Not for Profit,* speaks, followed by nutritionist Dr. Michael Latham's address on "The Infant Feeding Crisis." For complete schedule information on the World Hunger Week Teach-In, call or write Pat Gallagher, 995-1978, 720 Fountain, Ann

Arbor, 48105.
7:30 PM, Michigan Union Ballroom. Free.

"Between Jobs" — drama from the All Media Company

A multi-media presentation about four young men living together in an Ann Arbor apartment, and about the women and the world in their lives. Excerpts from the press release, the most opinionated and engaging we've seen: "This is a musical, but the actors do not sing, for people in real life do not break out into song on a whim, that's why there is a rock band in the midst of their apartment. . . . This is not an ordinary apartment, it is in a theater. Author Gregory Mazure is attempting to use media in a new type of drama, not as slide shows set to music. . . . You will experience modern music, drama, slides, video, film visuals. . . . Be prepared for the present. . . it is more healthy to think of the present than to dwell on the past. . . . Nostalgia is worthless."

8 PM, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets ($2) at Schoolkids, Michigan Union and League box offices. 663-0105.

"The Amphitryon" by Plautus — The Seligson Players.

Roman comedy about Jupiter's passion for the beautiful Alcmena, in which she keeps her virtue while her divine lover gets his desire. The miraculous birth of Hercules is accompanied by thunder and lightening. In Latin, performed by undergraduate students of Latin. We are assured that because the text is so superbly written, it translates easily into action in a way that's readily understandable to the audience, regardless of its knowledge of Latin. That's no mean feat!

8 PM, Angell Hall foyer. Contributions welcome.

4 FRIDAY

Earth Day Environmental Film Series

"City Farmstead," "The Energy Crunch: The Best Way Out," and "Solar Promise."

7 PM, Angell Hall, Auditorium B. Free.

"Between Jobs" — drama from the All Media Company

8 PM. See 3 Thursday.

5 SATURDAY

Audubon Society trip — migratory water fowl

1:30 PM, Maple Village across from Mann Village Theater.

Contemporary Directions Ensemble

The School of Music's able contemporary music group, product of the school's long-running commitment to modern music, which is unusual among schools of music. Most schools don't really budget anything for contemporary music; Michigan does. Program features world premieres of C. Rouse's "Mitternacht Lieder" and Tate's "Perelandra." Soloists: Jerome Jelinek and Leslie Guinn.

8 PM, Rackham Auditorium. Free.

"Between Jobs" — drama from the All Media Company

8 PM. See 3 Thursday.

"The Amphitryon" by Plautus — The Seligson Players

8 PM. See 3 Thursday for notes and time.

6 SUNDAY

"The Amphitryon" by Plautus

See 3 Thursday.
2:30 PM, Angell Hall foyer.

Pianist Mary Watkins — Oasis Women's Collective.

Jazz, blues, classical, soul, spiritual, and popular music from a versatile black musician, singer, and songwriter who frequently performs and records with other women musicians. Her first album, *Something Moving*, on the feminist Olivia label, was well received.

8:30 PM, Stockwell Hall, 324 S. Observatory. Donations $4.50-$7.50 according to ability to pay.

7 MONDAY

Ann Arbor city council elections

Fight apathy. Vote!
Polls open 7 AM to 8 PM.

Earth Day symposium: "Toxics and their impact on the state of Michigan."

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UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

April Calendar

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Wednesday, April 2, 8:30
Hill Auditorium

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra performed superbly in their 1978 UMS appearance under the baton of their conductor, Sergei Comissiona. Harold Schonberg has written in *The New York Times* that this is "a first class orchestra" and described Musical Director Comissiona as "one of the more impressive talents on the American orchestral scene."

Sherrill Milnes Baritone

Monday, April 14, 8:30
Hill Auditorium

Just ten years ago Sherrill Milnes made his Metropolitan Opera debut, and since that time his fame has spread rapidly to every corner of the globe. Now recognized internationally as "The All-American Superstar," Mr. Milnes has behind him a notable record of leading roles in the world's great opera houses.

Tickets at Burton Tower, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109
Weekdays 9-4:30, Sat 9-12. Phone (313) 665-3717

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Late registration fee $10 extra

CALENDAR/continued

First in the School of Natural Resources' panel discussions and public symposia on environmental challenges of the 1980's.
7 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Free.

Book Collectors' Workshop: Americana
7 PM, Ann Arbor Public Library meeting room. Free.

"Israeli Security in a New Key"
Lecture by retired Major General Mattityahu Peled of the Israeli Defense Forces. Sponsored by Viewpoint Lectures and Committee for a New Jewish Agenda.
7:30 PM, Michigan Union, Kuenzel Room. Free.

Introduction to cacti and succulents
A free slide lecture by Lou Kilbert, owner of Green Covenant Greenhouses, "An excellent time for beginning enthusiasts to get acquainted with the Ann Arbor Cactus and Succulent Society.
8 PM, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road. Free. Business meeting 7:30 PM.

8 TUESDAY

Booked for Lunch
The Battered Woman by Lenore Walker is discussed by Jane Conrad and Lou Edwards of the Domestic Violence Project.
12:10 PM, basement meeting room, Ann Arbor Public Library. The Friends of the Library Bookshop is open from 11 AM to 3 PM.

Earth Day symposium: "The Great Lakes region — the challenge of management."
Sponsored by the U-M School of Natural Resources.
7 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Free.

"Paths of Glory" (Stanley Kubrick, 1957) "Barry Lyndon" (Stanley Kubrick, 1976) at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative
Two classics by Kubrick, both of which deal with the follies and absurd rituals of war. Kirk Douglas stars in "Paths of Glory," a gripping World War I drama which culminates in the trial and heartless execution of several soldiers convicted of cowardice. Though the actors involved are too obviously American to be convincing as French soldiers, the cinematic portrayals of trench warfare's horrors and the stark depiction of the troops as victims of cynical militaristic game plans make this one of the handful of truly great anti-war films. In "Barry Lyndon," Ryan O'Neal as the 18th-century anti-hero finds himself a pawn in the game of the Seven Years' War, fighting at times for the British and the Prussians, but finally escaping to the gaming tables of Europe, where he wins Lady Lyndon, a beauteous mannequin perfectly portrayed by Marisa Berenson. Kubrick's theme is the structure of Western society and its dehumanizing traps. This three-hour epic is gorgeously photographed, often with the authenticity of available candlelight, its visual poetry heightened by a background of contemporary music. "Barry Lyndon" succeeds as a revealing, non-romanticized vision of making it, and losing it, in the 18th century.
— Harvey Hamburgh
"Paths of Glory," 7 PM; "Barry Lyndon," 8:30 PM; Auditorium A, Angell Hall. $1.50 or $2.50 double feature.

9 WEDNESDAY

Travel in Latin America.
Noon. Brownbag at the International Center, 603 E. Madison. Free. 764-9310.

Earth Day symposium: "Energy and public lands."
7 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Free.

"The Big Sleep" (Howard Hawks, 1946) at Cinema Guild
Mix Howard Hawks, Raymond Chandler, William Faulkner (the screenwriter), Bogart and Bacall, and this *film noir* cocktail is as exquisite as you could hope for. Bogart as Philip Marlowe is at the peak of form in this often-overlooked private eye piece, but he meets his match in Bacall as the Spoiled Rich Girl who embroils him in intrigue. Don't concern yourself with the convolutions of the plot (Hawks and Faulkner admitted they couldn't quite untangle it themselves); just go with the sinister, sophisticated mood that film-makers today still strive to emulate, and pay attention as Bogart and Bacall turn a dubious conversation about horse racing into a 40's equivalent of explicit sex.
— Harvey Hamburgh
7 and 9:05 PM, Old Architecture Auditorium, Tappan and Monroe. $1.50

"Blue Collar" (Paul Schrader, 1978) at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative
Grand Rapids' own Paul Schrader presents his anguished vision of camraderie gone sour and rampant corruption on the line at a Detroit auto plant. The three leading roles are superbly played by Richard Pryor, Harvey Keitel, and Yaphet Kotto. Pryor skillfully adds the necessary ingredient of humor to Schrader's characteristically dismal social statement. The film portrays the plight of American laborers caught in political and economic circumstances that render them powerless. Its dominance by black actors is unusual.
— Harvey Hamburgh
7 and 9 PM, Auditorium A, Angell Hall. $1.50

"The Crucible" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
Arthur Miller's classic about the Salem witchcraft trials.
8 PM, Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets ($4 and $4.50) at Civic Theater Box office, 338 S. Main. 662-9405.

10 THURSDAY

Earth Day symposium: "Global resources — the critical issues."
Panel includes Russel Train, first director of the Environmental Protection Agency and now president of the World Wildlife Fund.
7 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Free.

Clinic on family running
7:30 PM, Burns Park School auditorium.

"From Page to Stage" with the Play/Work Shop
Billed as "an orgy of original theater."
8 PM, Residential College Auditorium, East University at Hill. $2.

"The Crucible" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
8 PM. See 9 Wednesday.

11 FRIDAY

St. Joe's Radio-Thon Auction — WAAM 1600 AM
This third annual auction features a chance to bid on furniture, paintings, dinners out, and myriad consumer goods and benefit St. Joseph Mercy Hospital at the same time. Phone in bids to 663-2900.

Astrofest Program 89: Spacerap and Moonfilms
"Spacerap," a free-form session of questions (yours) and answers (mine) on anything relating to space, astronomy, or similar subjects (geology, for instance). We'll test the preposterous assumption on which I make my living: that I know everything about the whole Universe. (I don't, but with luck I can fake it.) "Spacerap" ends the program, and has only one ground rule: *there is no such thing as a dumb question.*

The program begins with films to mark 3 important anniversaries in the history of spaceflight. 15 years ago, Ranger 9 sent the first live television ever broadcast from another world as it crashed (intentionally) into the Lunar crater Alphonsus. (We'll precede the program with about 45 minutes of remarkable music by Alphonsus himself — Alphonso the Wise (1223-1284), King of Castile and Leon, patron of the arts, including music, and the sciences, including astronomy. His music sounds as fresh and alive as if some especially fine modern-jazz composer had written it last year.) *Apollo 13 — "Houston, We've Got a Problem"* is a fine NASA documentary, in cinema-verite style, on the one Apollo flight that failed — 10 years ago. *Apollo-Soyuz* is an equally fine film for the 5th anniversary of the joint US/USSR docking mission (remember detente?) which was also the last manned space mission the U.S. flew, though the Russians have kept up a vigorous manned program since.
— Jim Loudon

7:30 PM, Auditorium 3, Modern Languages Building. Free. For a free schedule of the many public astronomy/space programs at U-M, send a stamped, addressed envelope, **marked "26"** *(the new edition number)* **in the lower left corner,** *to U-M Exhibit Museum, ATTN: Astronomy Schedules, 1109 Geddes Ave., Ann Arbor MI 48109. Enclose additional envelopes marked "27", "28", etc. in the lower left corner, and we'll save them and mail you those editions too, when they come out (about once every three to five months).*

John Denver — Major Events Office

Depending on who you talk to, he's either the very best or the very worst. His Rocky Mountain Highness is, regardless of your taste, one of the very biggest names in show business, sharing stages (and attendance gross records) with people like Elvis Presley and Frank Sinatra. His last Ann Arbor appearance, in fact, was viewed by the largest crowd Crisler Arena has seen before or since. Expect him to break that record this time out. After having built a career upon his love and awe for Mother Nature, Denver has recently come under fire for hoarding gasoline and shooting trespassers with a BB gun.

— L. B.

8 PM, Crisler Arena. Tickets $12.50, $10, & $8.50 at Michigan Union Box Office, Aura Sounde, Huckleberry Party Store, Wherehouse Records and all Hudsons. 763-2071.

"The Crucible" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater

8 PM. See 9 Wednesday.

"Dining in Imperial Rome"

Illustrated lecture by Lorena Sass, consultant on historical cookery, founder of Feasts Unlimited, and author of *To the King's Taste* and *Dinner with Tom Jones.*

8 PM, auditorium of Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $6 ($10 for both Friday and Saturday lectures) to benefit the new Herb Garden.

"From Page to Stage" with the Play/Work Shop

8 PM. See 10 Thursday.

12 SATURDAY

Gaines 1980 U.S. Central Regional Dog Obedience Championship

165 purebred dogs from 20 states and Canada compete in precision heeling, jumping, retrieving, scent discrimination, and signal work. These are dogs of working breeds — retrievers, border collies, shelties, standard poodles, dobermans, German shepherds, and Belgian tervurens, among others.

Obedience competition is not at all like dog "beauty shows," where physical conformation to breed standards is what counts and an owner's heart may be broken over how his dog's ear stands. "Obedience is teamwork between owners and their dogs," says Ann Arborite Gail Dapogny, dog trainer and publicist for the event. "That relationship is what's judged at a trial like this. People talk quietly and the dogs are relaxed, unlike conformation shows, where dogs are yelping and occasionally urinating. What we try for is an ideal picture of a happy, willing worker. An owner who uses unnecessary discipline flunks. Any sign of cringing, and the dog flunks. Obedience trials are lots of fun to watch."

8:30 AM-4 PM, U-M Track & Tennis Building, Hoover at State. $1 admission (or one Gaines symbol from its dog food products). $1 parking. Noontime entertainment features Frisbee catch and fetch, dogs performing tricks, dog drill teams, and a dog-and-handler square dance.

Rummage sale — Triangle Coop Nursery School

Starts at 9 AM, King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard.

Spring Run

7.4 miles of hilly terrain and meandering roadways. Pro Trophies for first, second, and third place in each age division. Sponsored by Washtenaw County Parks & Rec.

For applications and further information, call 973-2595. $5 fee includes a T-shirt.

St. Joe's Radio-Thon Auction — WAAM 1600 AM

See 11 Friday.

"A Gastronomic Tour of Richard II's Kitchen and Great Hall"

Illustrated lecture by Lorena Sass.

1:30 PM, auditorium, Matthaei Botanical Garden, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $6 donation for new Herb Garden.

Ann Arbor Recreation Department

Adult Softball Team Registration

When: April 2 (Pre-Registration only)* and April 3 (Open Registration) from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Where: East Cafeteria of Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium Blvd. Enter the building at the clock-tower (North) entrance.

*Only teams which played in the 1979 softball program are eligible for Pre-Registration. To qualify for Pre-Registration, a team must have: nine returning players, a returning sponsor, or a returning manager.

In-person registration for Adult Softball Teams will continue at the Recreation Department, 2250 S. Seventh, beginning April 4. Team applications will be taken as long as league space is available.

For more information, call 994-2292.

Ann Arbor Recreation Department

Michigan Environmental Leadership School

outdoor adventure travel —

Trips, travel consultation & courses for groups and individuals

N.E. COAST TRIP	June 30-July 16	$495
SMOKIES BACK-PACKING ADVENTURE	May 3-10	$164

(low cost travel, car pools arranged)

For details contact Dick Taylor 662-4230 evenings

or write: 1130 Nielson No. 1 • Ann Arbor MI 48105

Sunday 13 April 1980: World Antiques and Treasures at Auction

Join us for the excitement of discovery and the challenge of wits at this great monthly Ann Arbor event.

We literally comb the world for these fine antiques and art objects. Every piece is documented, authenticated, and/or guaranteed to be as represented.

All pieces displayed for viewing at 12:00 noon. Auction begins promptly at 1:00 p.m. Refreshments provided.

American, European, and Oriental Furniture: Sculpture; Glass: Rugs and Tapestries; Jewelry; Oils; Ivory; Carved precious and semi-precious stones. An extraordinary selection.

The incredible increase in value of one-of-a-kind items in recent years provides excellent investment opportunities for today's volatile economic atmosphere.

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LADY AUBERT

by DIANE MONACH MAY 14-17

Tickets are available at:
Tix Info
312 S. State Street
662-5129

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre
338 S. Main (formerly the Elks)
662-7282 1-4 p.m.

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Artworlds Center for Creative Arts
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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
994-8400

CALENDAR /continued

Ann Arbor Pow Wow
Native American dances, arts, crafts, and food. Sponsored by U-M Native American Student Association and Ann Arbor Fort Meigs Indian Center.
2 PM and 8 PM, Huron High $3; $2 students; $.75 children. 764-5418

"The Crucible" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
8 PM. See 9 Wednesday.

Johnny Griffin with special guest Richie Cole — Eclipse Jazz
A veteran of tours and recording with John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk, Lockjaw Davis, Dexter Gordon and others, Griffin may just be the hardest-blowing tenor saxophonist alive. Only recently returned from a fifteen-year stay in Europe, he has met with nothing but success back home in America. His duet with Dexter Gordon at the Ann Arbor Jazz Festival in September, 1978, still brings chills to those who witnessed it. His quartet includes Ronnie Matthews on piano, Ray Drummond on bass and Idris Muhammed on drums. Richie Cole, a younger saxophonist also playing in the bebop tradition, and his group, Alto Madness, will open the concert. —*L.B.*
8 PM. Michigan Theater. Tickets $6.50 at Michigan Union Box Office, Schoolkids', Discount Records. 763-2071.

"From Page to Stage" with the Play/Work Shop
8 PM. See 10 Thursday

13 SUNDAY

St. Joe's Radio-Thon Auction — WAAM 1600 AM
See 11 Friday.

Ann Arbor Bicycle League breakfast ride to Saline
8 AM, Farmers' Market. Bring money for restaurant breakfast.

Gaines 1980 U.S. Central Regional Dog Obedience Championship
See 12 Saturday. Same times.

Workshop on biodynamic gardening
Biodynamic gardening is a soil management system that takes organic gardening one step further. Chemical fertilizers are eschewed in favor of a combination of bacterial sprays, which are added to natural compost to ferment and fertilize the soil. Hilmar Moor of the Waldorf Institute of Detroit conducts a day's program of lectures, discussion, slides and practical work in the garden.
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM, Rudolf Steiner Institute, 1923 Geddes. Free; donations welcome. Pot-luck lunch.

"The Future of the County Farm"
Discussion with Stacy Fox, director of Washtenaw County Park Operations. Recently the County Board of Commissioners turned this 110-acre site over to the Washtenaw County Parks Commission for development as a park. Fox will lead the site tour and discuss the new park plan.
1 PM, County Farm, Platt and Washtenaw. Meet at the barn.

Open Community sing of Haydn's "Creation"
Carl Daehler conducts singers and orchestra; listeners also welcome. Refreshments. The Ann Arbor Community Singers consists of people who like to sing for the fun of it.
2 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. $1 donation. 764-1375.

Ann Arbor Pow Wow
2 PM. only. See 12 Saturday.

Baroque Trio — U-M School of Music
Works by Telemann, Quantz, C. P. E. and J. S. Bach performed by the trio (Keith Bryan, flute; Jerome Jelinek, violincello; Marilyn Mason, harpsichord) and guest violinist Jacob Krachmalnick.
2:30 PM, Museum of Art main hall. Free.

"Wilderness Trials of Alaska" — Kiwanis Travelogue
3 PM, Michigan Theater. $3.50 adults, $1.75 under 16. Benefits Kiwanis community service activities.

"Around the World in 80 Days" — Great Movies at the Michigan
8 PM movie, 7:30 PM organ prelude. $2. Michigan Theater, Liberty at Maynard.

"An Evening with Cole Porter"
Musical revue with the Black Sheep Repertory Theatre Touring Company.
8 PM, Michigan Theater. Tickets ($7 & $8) at Hudson's, Michigan Union Box Office, Jacobson's Tix/Info. 995-9066.

"From Page to Stage" with the Play/Work Shop
8 PM. See 10 Thursday.

14 MONDAY

Book Collectors' Workshop: Manuscripts and Autographs
7 PM, Ann Arbor Public Library meeting room. Free.

"Around the World in 80 Days" — Great Movies at the Michigan
8 PM. See 13 Sunday.

Baritone Sherrill Milnes
What Pavarotti is to tenors, Milnes is to baritones. His recordings encompass all areas of the vocal repertoire.
8:30, Hill Auditorium. Tickets ($4-12) at University Musical Society, Burton Tower. Almost sold out.

15 TUESDAY

University Symphony Orchestra, Choirs, Arts Chorale
An unusual opportunity to hear one of Mahler's gargantuan symphonies, Symphony *No. 2*, which includes a large orchestra, off-stage band for special effects, and many choruses and soloists. Known as the "Resurrection" symphony, it is one of Mahler's best. Part of the inaugural festivities for U-M President Harold Shapiro.
8 PM, Hill Auditorium. Free.

16 WEDNESDAY

Community High Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert
This award-winning group emphasizes improvisation and a progressive repertoire. Barton Polot directs.
11 AM, 8 PM, Community High theater, 410 N. Division. Free.

Running Clinic: Running after 40.
A panel of runners over 40.
7 PM, Tortoise and Hare, 213 E. Liberty. Free. 769-9510.

David Bromberg Band with special guests Dick Siegel & His Ministers of Melody — Major Events Office.
A schooled musicologist, Bromberg incorporates blues, folk, jazz, country, rock, and classical music to come up with that immediately recognizable sound. Material runs the gamut from slow, haunting ballads to quick-picking, foot-stomping free-for-alls.

This is also an excellent opportunity to witness the talents of Dick Siegel and company, who will be performing material from the soon-to-be-released LP, "Snap!" Strongly influenced by Bromberg, Siegel injects a distinctively Midwestern lyrical perspective and a Motown-inspired R&B feel to his eclectic music. — *L. B.*
8 PM. Michigan Theater. Tickets $6.50 & $7.50 at Michigan Union Box Office, Aura Sounde and Huckleberry Party Store. 763-2071.

"The Pirates of Penzance" — U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society
8 PM, Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $4 and $5), call 994-0221; after April 13, call box office at 763-1085.

"The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger" U-M Dept. of Theatre Guest Artist series
The Restoration comedy by Sir John Vanbrugh is full of bawdy wit and complex subplots involving mistaken identities and intrigues. Starring Kevin O'leary as Lord Foppington. Part of the 18th Century Semester.
8 PM, Power Center. Tickets ($3.50-$6) at PTP Box Office, Michigan League; Hudson's; or call 764-0450 to charge.

17 THURSDAY

"Money Management for Peace of Mind"
Discussions of estate planning, budgeting, and how to sell gold, silver, and coins. Aimed at seniors.
1-3:30 PM, Turner Geriatric Clinic, 1010 Wall St. Free. 764-6831.

"Under the Covers — American Quilts" — film
The Huron Valley Quilting Society's spring meeting also features a new products display, a scrap exchange, and a show-and-tell.
7 PM, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. $1.50.

"The Pirates of Penzance" — U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society
8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

"The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger" — U-M Dept. of Theater Guest Artist Series
8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

Inaugural Ball for U-M President Shapiro
Featuring the new Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, conducted by Buddy Morrow. Its young musicians carry on the Big Band sound of the late Sentimental Gentleman of Swing.
9 PM to 1 AM, Michigan Union Ballroom. $20/couple, $11 single for faculty, staff, and alumni; $10/couple, $6 single for students. Tickets at Michigan Union Ticket Central 763-1107.

18 FRIDAY

Spring Book Sale — Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library
A highlight of this year's sale is a fine collection of Middle Eastern books, largely in Arabic, on history, literature, and archaeology.
9 AM-9 PM, basement meeting room, Ann Arbor Public Library.

"Absent Friends" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
Social comedy by Alan Ayckborn, the author of the PBS-TV Great Performances hit "The Norman Conquests."
8 PM, Ann Arbor Civic Theater, 338 S. Main $2.

"The Pirates of Penzance" — U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society
8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

Ted Nugent — Major Events Office
After years of persistence, Detroit's macho-rock king finally landed himself in the platinum category (signifying one million album sales) a few years ago. From playing the teen-club circuit first with the Lords and later the Amboy Dukes, Ted now is one of the handful of artists who can fill the nation's huge athletic stadiums summer after summer with teenagers, about whom Ted remarks, "If they ain't foaming at the mouth, then I've screwed up." Onstage he takes an aggressive approach, to say the very least. His guitar style has been described as "murderous," "demonic," "vicious," and "beast-like." The Weekend Warrior, the Motor City Madman returns. Do you know where your children are??
8 PM, Crisler Area. Tickets $9 & $10. 763-2071.

"The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger" — U-M Dept. of Theater Guest Artist Series
8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

19 SATURDAY

Spring book sale — Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library
9 AM-6 PM, meeting room, Ann Arbor Public Library.

"The Pirates of Penzance" — U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society
2 PM matinee; 8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

"Absent Friends" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
8 PM. See 18 Friday.

Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra
18th century chamber music with harpsichord. The Comic Opera Guild performs Pergolesi's chamber opera "The Music Master." Chamber opera, performed with a few instrumentalists and singers, is opera on an intimate scale. Pergolesi died young, leaving a small but excellent body of work.
8:30 PM dessert concert, Michigan Theater, Liberty at Maynard. For tickets ($6), call 996-0066 or write Chamber Orchestra Society, 903 E. Huron, AA 48104. Refreshments extra.

U-M Men's Glee Club
Musical fun includes concert and pops selec-

Ann Arbor Civic Ballet Silver Anniversary Presents

"Aurora's Wedding"
from Sleeping Beauty
with visiting artists

Sunday
May 4
1980
2:00 &
7:00pm

Power Center

Tickets: 2.00 Children, 4.00 Adults • Jacobson's Tix/Info, Murphy's Landing, Willoughby's Little Boot Shops, Sylvia Studio Of Dance, First Position, Generations, Box Office prior to each Performance.
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Huron Valley National Bank

125 S. Fifth Ave., at Washington, 1969 W. Stadium Blvd., near Pauline, 3305 Washtenaw, at Huron Parkway, 314-320 Washington (Autobank), 777 N. University (Campus), 3001 State St. (in Wolverine Towers), 2001 N. Huron Parkway, at Plymouth Rd. Member FDIC. Phone all offices: 761-2211.

Ann Arbor Recreation Department

Youth and Teen Softball and Baseball

Player Registration

When: April 7 and 8 from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. both evenings.

Where: East Cafeteria of Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium Blvd. Enter the building at the clock-tower (North) entrance.

In-person registration on these two evenings is for players in the following leagues: Youth (9-12) Baseball and Softball; Junior (13-15) and High School (16-18) Baseball; and Girls 13-15 and Girls 16-18 Fast Pitch Softball.

In-person and mail-in player registrations for the above mentioned leagues will continue at the Recreation Department, 2250 S. Seventh, after April 8, but only as long as league space is available. All player registrations must be received by 5:00 p.m. April 14. Players registered the evenings of April 7 and 8 will receive priority league placement.

Ann Arbor Recreation Department

Let U-M Extension Help You Sing Your Song

Horticulture and Natural History
Edible Wild Plants
Michigan Birds
Geology on Vacation
Principles of Outdoor Gardening
Michigan Flora: Spring (Begins May 8)

Exercise and Movement
Tai Chi Chuan I
Tai Chi Chuan II
Hatha Yoga
Beginning Jogging

Cuisine
Nutrition and Diet with Chinese Food
Cuisines of the World (Begins April 28)

Crafts/Art
Calligraphy
Photography for Beginners
Travel Photography

General Interest
Space Update 1980
Sherlockian Tales (Begins April 17)
Voluntary Simplicity
Alternative Energy
Educational Uses of Home Computers

Personal Growth and Development
Spiritual Psychology and Rebirthing
Grief and Bereavement: Coping with Loss
Writing Workshop
Play Piano Despite Years of Lessons

Professional Growth and Development
Effective Organizational Leadership
Stress Management

Language and Culture
Spoken Chinese for Beginners I
Spoken Chinese for Beginners II
Spoken Chinese for Beginners III

A2 Regional Center
U–M Extension Service
412 Maynard St. Ann Arbor 48109

Credit-free classes begin the week of April 21, except as noted above. Register by mail, in person, or by phone with Master Charge or Visa. Call U-M Courses in Adult Education from 8-5 at (313) 763-4321, ext. 22 for FREE CATALOG and additional information.

ANN ARBOR POW WOW

Featuring: Traditional Native American dances, dance contests, booths for arts and crafts & food.

APRIL 12 & 13

Saturday - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Sunday - 2 p.m.

Huron High School

Donations: Adults - $3.00, Students (with I.D.) - $2.00, Children (12 and under) - $ .75

764-5418 or 761-3767

Public invited!

CALENDAR /continued

tions and humorous numbers by the Friars octet.
8 PM, Hill Auditorium. Ticket information: 764-9238.

"The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger" — U-M Dept. of Theater Guest Artist series
8 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

20 SUNDAY

The Antiques Market
This year's first market, with over 275 dealers. Guaranteed for authenticity by promoter Margaret Brusher.
8 AM-4 PM (early birds welcome after 5 AM). Farm Council Grounds, Saline-Ann Arbor Rd. near Pleasant Lake Rd. $1.

Annual 50% Off Extravaganza
Area businesses offer half off on merchandise and services including sports equipment, sportswear, jewelry, wicker, aquariums, waterbeds, plants, stained glass, prints, and more.
10 AM-6 PM, U-M Track and Tennis Building, State and Hoover. Free admission.

First Annual Burns Park Run
A family run of one, three, and six miles.
10 AM, Burns Park School. 769-8349 even. & weekends.

Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra
For program notes see 19 Saturday.
12 noon brunch concert, 4 PM tea concert. Michigan Theater, Liberty at Maynard.

Wetlands films — Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation
"Seasons": DNR film depicting changing seasons on a small Michigan Lake. "Swamps, bogs, and marshes": a colorful film describing the heritage of Michigan wetlands.
1 PM, County Recreation Center, Washtenaw at Hogback.

"The Relapse, or, Virtue in Danger" — U-M Dept. of Theater Guest Artist Series
2 PM. See 16 Wednesday.

Sterling Chamber Players
These independent Ann Arbor musicians specialize in performing works played on unusual combinations of instruments. This program of Brahms features a clarinet trio, horn trio, and quintets for clarinet and horn.
8 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Call 662-5129 for ticket information.

Amadeus Quartet
This performance by one of today's great chamber ensembles replaces the Quartetto Italiano April 17 engagement, cancelled on account of illness. The program includes Haydn's "Emperor" Quartet, Schubert's "Death and the Maiden," and Benjamin Britten's Quartet No. 3, written for the Amadeus Quartet and rarely heard in this country
8:30 PM, Rackham Auditorium. Tickets ($4 to $7) at University Musical Society, Burton Tower. Ticket-holders for Quartetto Italiano, MAKE ADJUSTMENTS BY April 17.

21 MONDAY

Spring Book Sale — Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library
Monday is Bargain Day. Proceeds go for library improvement projects.
9 AM-9 PM, basement meeting room, Ann Arbor Public Library.

Son Seals Blues Band
Seals is a gruff howler of a singer, but most of the attention he's getting these days concerns what he does with an electric guitar. The jazz press has critically acclaimed the economy and imagination that mark his solos, and the rock press praises the rock'n'roll energy he consistently arouses in his audiences. At one point in his career he temporarily took up the drums, preferring to play another instrument rather than play a style that was imitative and not uniquely his. But that was before he developed what has inspired *New York Times* critic Robert Palmer to call him "the most exciting blues guitarist and singer in years." — *L. B.*
9:30 PM, Rick's American Cafe. Tickets ($3 in advance/$4 at the door), at Schoolkids' Records, Discount Records and Rick's. 996-2747.

22 TUESDAY

Earth Day 80
Marking the tenth anniversary of the original Earth Day and the beginning of the environmental movement — a new consciousness of the importance of treating the earth and its resources with care. The newly-formed Ann Arbor Coalition for a Second Environmental Decade plans a number of activities including a possible fair on Main Street. For information or to help, call 761-3186, or meet at the Ecology Center, 417 Detroit, Tuesdays at 7:30 PM.

24 THURSDAY

"Creative Outreaches of Storytelling from Mountain to Modern"
Southern storytellers Connie Regan and Barbara Freeman, known as The Folktellers, tell all kinds of tales — ghost stories, mountain stories, contemporary children's favorites.
8 PM, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Free. 994-2345.

Ann Arbor May Festival
Sold out.

25 FRIDAY

Ann Arbor Women's City Club Homes Tour
Nine homes, including three Newport West condos and an antique-filled, 1898 house on Hill Street.
Tickets ($4.50) at many local shops or through Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Buffet luncheon from 11:30 to 2 PM.

National Paddleball Association's National Doubles Championship
A chance to see some of the nation's top racquetball pros, familiar to fans of ABC's "Wide World of Sports." Schedules to compete in the open class are Charlie Brumfield, Charlie Drake, Steve Keeley, and brash world champ Marty Hogan, who at 20 has within the past two years won every major title on the nation's 9 pro stops. Hogan's career goal: to win every national title in both racquetball and paddleball.

Paddleball, played with a wooden paddle, is more difficult to learn than racquetball and requires more finesse and endurance. It was originated right here in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan by Earl Rickey. Racquetball's wildfire momentum has obscured paddleball, which is played only at the amateur level and mainly in Michigan. But paddleball devotees hope for a revival as racquetball peaks and wanes.

ABC will televise parts of this tournament, which features men's and women's competition in several classes and age ranges.
First round starts at 6 PM. Ann Arbor Court Club, 2875 Boardwalk off Eisenhower. 250 spectator seats. Call 662-0243 for ticket info.

"Deathtrap" — PTP Best of Broadway series
Comedy-thriller about a playwright who, after writing nothing of consequence for years, gets his hands on a student's play called "Deathtrap," which is so remarkable he would do almost anything to get it under his name. Walter Kerr called it "an absolute knockout"; Clive Barnes termed it "absolutely spellbinding." According to *Time's* T. E. Kalem, "a brimming tumbler of arsenic and Schweppes embraces the audience with fun and terror." Starring Donald Barton and Patricia Guinan.
8 PM, Power Center. Tickets at Michigan League PTP box office and Hudson's. Charge by phone 764-0450.

"Absent Friends" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
8 PM. See 18 Friday.

26 SATURDAY

Bike Safety check-up
The Noon Optimists check brakes, bearing adjustment, tire pressure, and recommend necessary work.
10AM-2PM, U-M Plant Dept. garage in Crisler Arena parking lot. Free.

National Paddleball Doubles Championship
See 25 Friday.
8 AM-10 PM. Call 662-0243 for ticket info.

"Absent Friends" — Ann Arbor Civic Theater
8 PM. See 18 Friday.

"Deathtrap" — PTP Best of Broadway series
8 PM. See 25 Friday.

27 SUNDAY

Ann Arbor Bicycle League breakfast ride to Dexter
8 AM, Farmers' Market. Bring money for restaurant breakfast.

National Paddleball Doubles Championship
See 25 Friday.

5 and 10 kilometer run — Ann Arbor Track Club
Fund-raiser for the track club's youth program.
1 PM men's run, 2 PM women's run. Huron High. $5 registration fee.

"Deathtrap" — PTP Best of Broadway series
2 PM, 8 PM. See 25 Friday.

"42nd Street" — Great Movies at the Michigan
8 PM movie, 7:30 PM organ prelude. Michigan Theater, Liberty at Maynard. $2.

Bonnie Raitt — Major Events Office
Raitt is one of those perennial Ann Arbor favorites who, no matter how many times they return, always fill the house and deliver a high-caliber performance.
8 PM. Hill Auditorium. Ticket information unavailable at press time. Call 763-2071.

MAY 1 THURSDAY

No Bills Day — free consultation with attorneys
Free 20-minute private consultation with local attorneys practicing in the areas of family law, landlord-tenant law, probate and wills, real estate, consumer disputes and contracts, civil rights, criminal law, social security, and personal injury. Representatives of various legal agencies will be on hand to answer general questions without appointments. Sponsored by Washtenaw County Bar Association, Young Lawyers' Section.
8 AM-6 PM, Room 200, Hutchins Hall, U-M Law School. For private consultation, make advance appointment by calling 994-4309 between April 24 and 30.

MAY 2 FRIDAY

"Meet the Michigan" — Michigan Theater benefit weekend
Old-time movies with organ accompaniment. Program not final; call 663-9863 or 668-8480 for information. The weekend is a combined fundraiser and get-acquainted event to introduce Ann Arbor's community theater (an 1800-seat picture palace) to the public.

"At Second Sight" — Theatre Company of Ann Arbor
Music, movement, and storytelling combined in a political statement and dramatic performance. Part of the May Day Political Arts Festival, and the piece's last Ann Arbor performance.
8 PM, Residential College Auditorium, East University near Hill.

MAY 3 SATURDAY

"Meet the Michigan" — Michigan Theater benefit weekend
10 AM-4 PM: open house with performances throughout the day by Ann Arbor Council for the Arts member groups. $2 adults, $1 children, under 6 years free.
8:30 PM: Michigan Theater Ball with big band dancing on the stage. Dennis James, organist, and the New McKinney Cottonpickers. Cocktails available. $10/person.

MAY 4 SUNDAY

"Aurora's Wedding" — Ann Arbor Civic Ballet
This gala performance celebrates the Civic Ballet's 25th anniversary and includes past company members now professionally involved in classical ballet. "Aurora's Wedding" is Act III, scene II of "The Sleeping Beauty," choreographed by Marius Petips, with music by Tchaikovsky.
2 PM and 7 PM, Power Center. Tickets ($4 adult, $2 children) at Jacobson's Tix/Info, Murphy's Landing, Generations, and at the door.

EMU THEATRE

AS I LAY DYING

by William Faulkner, adapted for the Quirk stage by Annette Martin

Grotesquely humorous story of a hill-folk family. Anguish, violence, love and salvation!

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Concerto for Flute and Orchestra in D Major ..... Mozart
Pictures at an Exhibition ..... Mussorgsky-Ravel

Soloists: Percussion Section of the Ann Arbor Symphony
Israel Borouchoff, Flutist
Sharon Borouchoff, Flutist

Sunday, May 4, 1980 3:30 p.m.
Pease Auditorium,
EMU Campus, Ypsilanti

This concert is made possible by a special gift from Mr. and Mrs. E.B. Powers, the Women's Association of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, the Michigan Council for the Arts, the Music Performance Trust Funds of the American Federation of Musicians and Local 625 AF of M, and the generosity of local individuals, families and businesses. The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra is an affiliate of the Ann Arbor Recreation Department.

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Briarwood Mall
Information Desk
Grand Court

Goodyear's Department Store
122 S. Main St.
Ann Arbor

The Book Shop
2775 Plymouth Rd.
Ann Arbor

Huron Valley National Bank
Main Office
125 S. Fifth Ave.
Ann Arbor

The Book Haus
Arborland
Ann Arbor

Hai Yuan Trading Co.
Maple Village
Ann Arbor

Ypsilanti

1st Floor Newsstand
McKenny Union
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti

Ypsilanti City Clerk's Office
1 S. Huron
Ypsilanti

Ypsilanti Public Library
220 W. Michigan Ave.
Ypsilanti

Ypsilanti Food Cooperative
308 Perrin
Ypsilanti

Information 996-0400

CHANGES

Selected reports on major changes in retail businesses and noteworthy buildings

New additions to Main Street

The 300 block of Main between Liberty and William was a mixed bag five years ago, just after Briarwood opened and took Faber's Fabrics with it. A ratty but interesting surplus store and several moribund businesses stood alongside long-established neighbors like Kline's, Fiegel's, Wilkinson Luggage, and Hutzel's dress shop.

Now, however, the 300 block really is becoming the "better business block," as its merchants have always liked to think of it. Complete Cuisine replaced the surplus store, and Ian's Patisserie is where Faber's and then Berry's Appliance were. Gobel's Snappy Service has become the Central Cafe; The Plumed Serpent imports took over the brick house occupied by a hearing-aid dealer. Recent additions include Michigan National Bank in the old Stadel's menswear space, the Civic Theatre in the Elks Lodge, Lucky Drugs in the former Scandanavian furniture store and Purchase Camera Shop space, and Generations children's shop, which outgrew its space in the East Liberty Plaza and moved where Florence Bridal was.

Today, even in these times of tight money, expansion continues, and the gentrification of downtown moves apace. **Ayla's,** selling exclusive women's fashions, will move soon from East Liberty Plaza to 323 S. Main, previously the south half of Apollo Music. More room will permit new lines, including more moderately-priced clothes for young budgets. The north half of Apollo's will house **The Shaker Shop,** which is moving from Briarwood by May, it is hoped. The furniture store will add other lines of traditional and Queen Anne furniture and double its size. **The Warehouse,** currently in the Miller-Main Shops, will move to where **Marsh's Office Supply** now is. The walls will be stripped down to bare brick, and the store should be moved by early summer into quarters three times as large as its present space. The owners plan to expand the store's stock of practical home accessories, including stemware and wire and plastic storage systems.

Marsh's is closing its Ann Arbor store but will continue working out of its Ypsilanti headquarters. "We do a lot of office space planning and furniture sales, and we don't need this location for that," said George Tiedjen, former manager, now on the design sales staff. "The walk-in trade here wasn't great. Ann Arbor is still our major market, however, and we may open another Ann Arbor office, mainly for office planning, in the future."

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Feet before fashion at Footprints

Shoe styles, like so much else in fashion, are presently withdrawing from the healthy, natural look of the early Seventies at a rapid rate. But one store in town is resisting the trend and even expanding in the face of powerful opposition. **New Directions** footwear, previously located at 322 E. Liberty along with Soybean Cellars and Seva, has moved to a much more prominent location up the street where The Lily Shoppe was. It's now known as **Footprints.**

"Over 90% of every foot problem is a shoe problem," says owner John Cosland. A former physics student, he became interested in feet when he worked as a conscientious objector in the physical therapy department at St. Joe. There he learned about the principles of posture and saw the problems created by wearing shoes with high heels or poor fits. "Our philosophy is to stock shoes as close to level as possible and wide enough not to confine the foot," he explains. "Higher heels put more stress on the foot. We go totally out of our way to find shoes that fit our philosophy. Sometimes we'll find one shoe from a big manufacturer's line. But our shoes are not what you'd call fashionable," he warns. It takes people with some sense of devotion to their feet to wear them.

This kind of alternative footwear is still going strong on the West Coast — in fact, a chain of shoe stores is called Alternative Footwear. But they are rare in Michigan, and New Directions/Footprints attracts many out-of-town customers.

Footprints currently stocks shoes from eight different makers. The biggest sellers

are Shakti Shoes and Birkenstock, both of which feature contoured cork footpads which mold to the individual foot and thus allow better circulation. Replacement soles can make a pair of Birkenstocks (currently retailing from $40 to $50) last as long as ten years. Earth Shoes, those distinctive shoes with a recessed or negative heel, are again in production and will also be stocked. New Earth Shoe manufacturers in Milwaukee think they have solved the quality-control problems that made perhaps as many enemies as friends for the once-trendy shoes.

Three new low-cost choices for campus restaurant-goers

El Greco restaurant at 217 S. State is what used to be **Best Steak House.** "El Greco" means "the Greek" and the Greek in question is Theophanis Patanastasopoulos, who was a line cook at Best Steak and who refuses to shorten his name. He and Helen Panos (former manager of the Olde Colonial truck stop on Michigan Avenue, who did not have to shorten her name) are partners in the new El Greco. Its house specialty is Grecian roasted chicken, which is marinated overnight in herbs and spices. It does have a delicious skin, and it's quite a deal at $3.49 for a half chicken, together with El Greco's standard accompaniments of tossed lettuce salad, potato, and thick buttered toast. Other prices range from $2.99 (for shishkebob, a 6-ounce steak, or ground sirloin) to $5.99 for a T-bone. Before 3 PM, service is cafeteria-style; from three to midnight there's table service for the same price.

The interior has been redesigned by Greg Fenerli, engineer, designer, writer, cook, and owner of the Oyster Bar and the Spaghetti Machine. It's full of his typical Mediterranean touches — straw-backed chairs, wooden booths, baskets used both as lampshades and decorations on the rough-plastered white walls.

Suppenkasper is a new self-serve restaurant at 315 S. State, where Turtle Island used to be. New owners Larry Morris and John Flynn bought Turtle Island from the owners of financially-troubled Eden Foods. They aim to offer the most complete salad bar in town, with nearly all fresh ingredients and *no iceberg lettuce!* Romaine, butterleaf, and spinach will be the greens. Four homemade soups a day (clam chowder, chili, and two others) and bread (sourdough, pumpernickel, and corn muffins) round out the offerings of this quick-in, quick-out campus operation. Prices will be about $2.25 for salad, $4 for soup and salad, with no charge for all the bread you want.

Morris and Flynn are from San Diego. Morris, a pilot for a charter airline based at Willow Run Airport, has been here since last summer. He says, "I just thought this kind of a restaurant is what Ann Arbor needed, so I talked John, who has the restaurant experience, into it."

The Orient Express at State and William has been serving Chinese fast food since mid January. Aesthetically it's a vast improvement over its pedecessor, Mr. Tony's Submarines. The stained-glass sign by Ann Arbor glasscrafters Osius & Bantle goes well with the red brick, turn-of-the-century building. Favorite Oriental dishes like egg rolls and teriyaki beef, with rotating specials. Owner Lok Lau offers "thirty-second service" and points out that his is the county's only Chinese fast-food restaurant.

Continued on p. 50.

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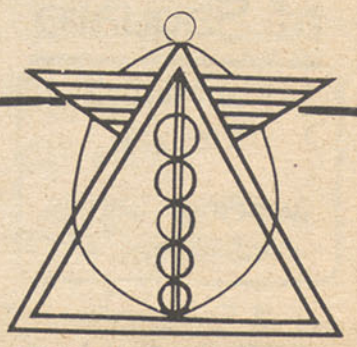

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Good-by to Everett's

Ann Arbor's last independent drive-in to make way for a Taco Bell.

Ann Arbor's oldest independent drive-in is about to become a **Taco Bell,** pending city approval. **Everett's**, on Stadium near Liberty, closed Sunday, March 23, and for owner Everett Williams, that was both a relief and a sad occasion.

Poor health led him at age 56 to sell the business and property. A farewell party was held Sunday by long-time Everett's regulars — a group of tradesmen, many of whom started hanging out at Everett's as teenagers when it was a favorite destination for high-school cruising. The big neon sign, a classic piece of roadside Americana with a huge arrow and an illuminated hamburger, goes to loyal customer Jim Hurd, who plans to install it behind his home in the country.

Twenty-six years as an independent drive-in operator in competition with McDonald's and Burger King doesn't make a man rich, and Williams, who has been trying to sell his property for the past year, held out for a price in the vicinity of $200,000.

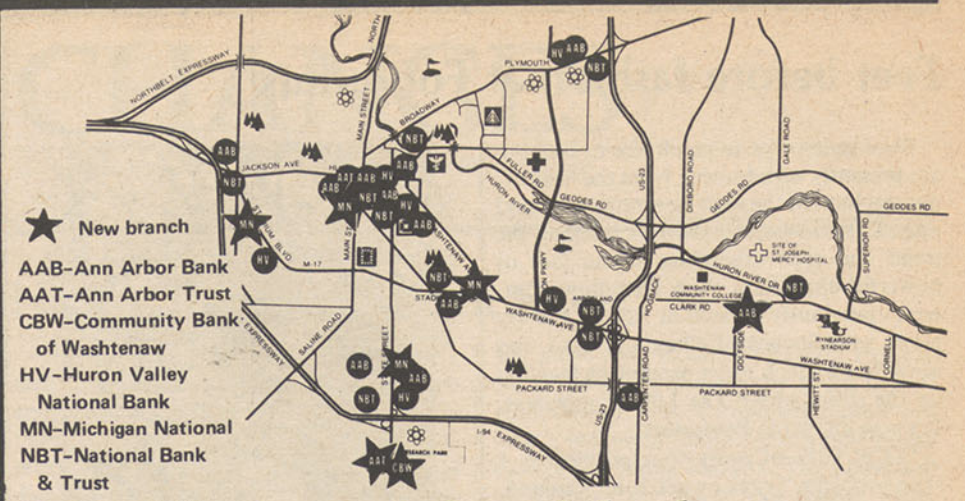
It's the highest price we've paid for land, I think," says Taco Bell real estate coordinator Bill Kuhnmuench. "The going rate isn't that high." But Taco Bell doesn't have any Ann Arbor operations, and there aren't many good sites available in town. Everett's location, surrounded by other fast-food traffic-generators in the heart of what Kuhnmuench calls "a proven commerical district," is an excellent one for Taco Bell, which offers an alternative to standard burger fare.

Taco Bell began in the Southwest, where Mexican food has long been standard Anglo fare. It was bought out two years ago by the Pepsi-Cola Corporation, which also owns Pizza Hut. There are 33 Taco Bells in the greater Detroit marketing area and over 900 nation-wide.

Everett's neighbors are objecting to the Taco Bell site plan, which would raze Everett's present building and erect a standard Taco Bell structure, with substantial landscaping improvements and fences planned to appease the neighbors. Retaining the existing rear exit onto a residential street (Burwood) is the crux of the controversy.

"We're hoping and praying the people will understand," Everett Williams says. He needs to get a good price for the property to finance his retirement and medical bills. He hopes to build garden apartments for senior citizens on his three lots behind the restaurant.

Asked about other plans, Williams shows that he's still a hamburger man at heart, retirement notwithstanding. "I may try to promote the Nu-Mo [his patented sandwich resembling a meat loaf patty — Nu for 'new,' and Mo for 'more of everything']. And I got another idea called the 'Grind and Grill.' You could grind the meat as you need it in a kind of showmanship type of thing, behind sanitary glass, in automated, sanitary condition. Customers would know it had been ground that day."



Behind the boom in branch banks

Ann Arbor isn't growing much, yet it seems that each month brings one or two more branch banks around the city, accompanied by big advertisements and special offers. There have been eight new ones since November alone.

Why? We talked to one branch administrator of a major bank to find out. Here's what he told us:

Establishing branches is a little like chess. Moves can be offensive — to stake out an area — or defensive — to keep the competition out. Ann Arbor may not be growing by leaps and bounds, but it's an attractive town for banks. It's stable, with few deteriorating neighborhoods and little potential for massive layoffs. It's relatively affluent. Savings here is greater than loan demand.

Fifteen or so years ago there were only two banks in town (Ann Arbor Bank and National Bank and Trust). Their attitude was often "let the customer come to us," as one of their bankers puts it. But that attitude changed in the Seventies, as the banking situation here and elsewhere became more competitive. Banking regulatory agencies changed branching rules to encourage competition. Very seldom are branch applications denied in Michigan today. New banks were formed: Huron Valley in 1964, Ann Arbor Trust in 1974, and now, as of last year, Michigan National Bank of Ann Arbor, local unit of the giant, state-wide holding company. It has just established three strategically-located branches on the south, west, and east sides.

Now there's a growing feeling that Ann Arbor may be overbanked, just as existing banks had argued in their unsuccessful efforts to keep Michigan National out. Ann Arbor now has 35 bank locations for an estimated population of 106,000 — one of the highest concentrations of banks in the state.

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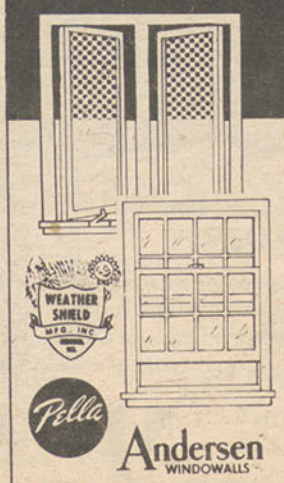

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Assorted Notes

The Periodical Retreat, a haven for lovers of offbeat periodicals, small press publications, scholarly journals, and books of all political persuasions from libertarian to liberal, has closed its retail store at 336 ½ South State. Owners Kay and Sam Mahaffy have found mail-order a better basis for continuing their very specialized business, which will now be in their home. Their ads appear in about seventy national publications. For a price list, write Periodical Retreat, Box 1246, Ann Arbor 48106.

The **Bass Shoe** store on East Liberty near State, has been sold to John Swisher III and George Floridis. They are the respective property manager and owner of the Michigan Theater Building, where the store, now known as **Liberty Shoe Company**, is located.

Bass Shoes of Wilton, Maine, make casual shoes, including the classic Weejun loafer. They started three company stores about four years ago to test market Bass's coming styles. If a new style sold well in the test stores, they'd produce them for nationwide sales. The Liberty Street store was a successful operation, Swisher says, but the lead time between test sales and production became so long that the system didn't end up helping Bass much. Landlords Swisher and Floridis were impressed with the Bass people and products, and they decided to buy the store. They plan to continue carrying a very wide line of Bass styles and add other brands, including Adidas and a more formal line of men's shoes. Rod Lowe will continue to manage the store.

The Ann Arbor Theater, the city's only independent movie house, located on S. Fifth Avenue, will close for eight to ten weeks in mid-April for division into two theaters. Grand Rapids owner Bob Goodrich says the motives behind the conversion, which will cost over $100,000, are economic. "There are a lot of theaters in Ann Arbor, and competitively I can't always get a *Life of Brian* or an *Agatha*. There are lots of periods where I'm just picking up films, and if I'm picking up two films, the combination will make me healthy."

The larger, 325-seat theater will function as a first-run house; its screen will fall only two feet short of the twenty-seven-foot screen now in place. The smaller, 200-seat theater will play a combination of second-run and foreign films.

A new concession stand will also be installed to serve the theaters. And moviegoers used to sliding off the Ann Arbor's seats, which tilt alarmingly toward the floor, should be happy to hear that the plan for the two theaters include all-new seating.

The Thrift Shop, now at Fourth and Ann, will move in late April to a new location on Broadway, where a Stop-&-Go now is. The handsome brick building at Fourth and Ann has been purchased for conversion to offices by the Lawyers' Co-op (eight attorneys practicing in a cooperative setting).

One consequence of the Thrift Shop's move will be to operate continuously from 10 AM to 4 PM. More space and better parking is another result.

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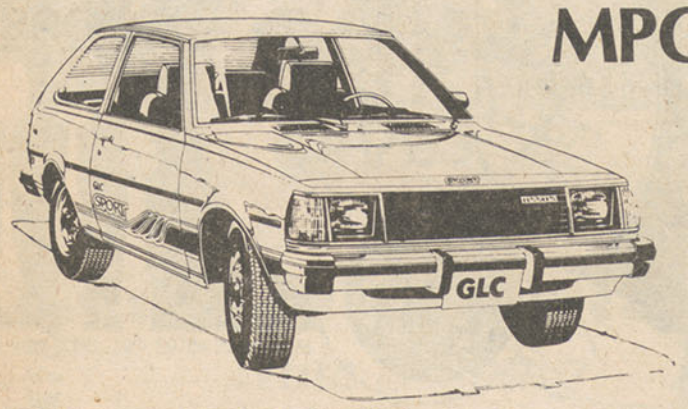

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Reservations: None
Hours: Lunch 11:30-2; Dinner 5-9 Mon. - Thu. Fri-Sat until 10; Sun — 12:30-8.
Wheelchair access: — front door.

By ANNETTE CHURCHILL

A reviewer has to be pretty brash to make unqualified pronouncements about a Chinese restaurant. Is there another category of eating place that engenders more disagreement among people? Send friends to a Chinese restaurant where you have enjoyed a terrific meal, and like as not, they'll report back that when they went there it must have been the chef's night out.

Part of the problem is that no two parties of diners are likely to order the same things from the very long menus. Then, too, there isn't much agreement among us about how the dishes ought to taste. When we say of an American restaurant that "their steak is fantastic," people know precisely what we mean. But if we say of a Chinese restaurant, "don't miss the Moo Shi Pork," we don't know what expectations we are setting up.

The menu at the Forbidden City lists five appetizers, seven soups, twenty seafood preparations, eight of pork, and a dozen each of fowl and beef. It seems heavily weighted with unexotic American favorites — and why not? This huge place, which in full cry can accommodate two hundred upstairs and another two hundred and fifty in the banquet rooms downstairs, is clearly built on mass appeal. (Orientals also patronize it in substantial numbers, making up fully a third of the diners on a recent Friday evening.) Four sweet and sour dishes are offered — fish, shrimp, pork and chicken — sure-fire popular winners. Garlic and ginger are notably absent from the descriptions of the various dishes except in the case of two that are specifically named for them, Garlic Chicken and Ginger Beef. The words "bean curd" appear once. Only three offerings involve hot pepper, and in two of them it is optional. Three standard menu items have abalone as a principal ingredient.

Of four standard, even trite, appetizers, ($1.75 to $3.50 — or an assorted platter for four at $8), the barbecued spareribs owed

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Peter Yates

Head chef Steven Wong puts vegetables into a wok for stir-frying.

more to chili sauce painted on them after they were cooked than to any Chinese treatment. Fried shrimp toast had a flavorful filling spoiled by the toast being saturated with oil, and Fried Pot Stickers (sort of a ravioli with a rice dough) were merely O.K. But the egg rolls were excellent, not greasy and hugely stuffed with nicely stir-fried vegetables.

My ho-hum reaction thus far was stopped cold by an absolutely stunning soup. Spiced and Sour Soup ($1.75 for the small bowl) was based on a chicken broth with extraordinary depth of flavor. Enriched with shreds of pork, bean curd, and egg drops, it was spiced to just the right degree of heat, to let the golden chicken flavor come through. The large bowl would have made a fine meal all by itself, but I pressed on.

Mongolian Beef ($6.25), which like everything we ordered came in a very large portion ample for sharing with four or five other people, was very tasty. Shrimp Vegetable Deluxe ($7.25) involved a less than spectacular number of shrimp cooked with half a dozen or more vegetables which were limp. Surprisingly, though, there were a great many crisp and fresh-tasting pea pods with the tired vegetables. And lest you think the Forbidden City is ungenerous with shrimp in all its entrees, order Forbidden City Shrimp ($8.00). The dish is nothing *but* shrimp, heaped high on the regular-size oval serving plate. Covered lightly with a sweetish tomato sauce spiked with the heat of a little red pepper, it should appeal to the sweet and sour devotees, though it's not really sour. Anyway you look at it, it is a spectacular bargain for shrimp lovers.

Thick wedges of bean curd ($5.60) in a porky-tasting all-purpose sauce was appealing, mainly because of the generosity of the serving. The so-so sauce needed the added punch of the optional hot pepper you can order with it.

I loved the Moo Shi Pork ($7.25), lots of thin strips of pork and egg enclosed in large steamed Chinese pancakes. All-purpose sauce again seemed to have been used to hold it together, but liberal applications of plum sauce and a salting with soy sauce helped to make it taste more individual. But when I said to a friend that I had enjoyed this dish, she remembered that on one occasion at the Forbidden City her Moo Shi Pork had been virtually all egg and almost no pork — so there you are.

The lunch menu includes soups and appetizers (.80 to $1.75), fried rice and chow mein ($2.75), and combination plates ($3.25). The Egg Drop Soup contained lots of egg, but the broth, while reasonably tasty, did not equal that of the Spiced Sour soup. The ChowMein/Sweet and Sour Pork combination could have fed two people. The Chow Mein had lots of vegetables in it — very crisp this time — and almost no chicken. What threads of chicken were in it had a dank, warmed-over taste. The pork was better and there was lots of it.

Here's how I view the Forbidden City after several visits there. It caters to the mass market rather than to sophisticated aficionados of Chinese food. Considering its monstrous size, it does a good job. Service is extremely friendly and wonderfully quick. When the urge to eat Chinese strikes, one can satisfy it reasonably well without making a reservation or waiting a long time in line. □

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GOOD DEALS

Specialty shops, not supermarkets, have best prices on fine cheese

Last February freelance food consultant Marty Wolf compared cheese prices at the leading local purveyors of specialty cheeses — the Big Ten Party Store, Dunham-Wells in Kerrytown, Kroger Westgate's cheese shop, and Arbor Farms, the new natural foods supermarket on West Stadium. He made a surprising discovery: better cheese at Kroger costs more than at the specialty shops, which offer customer extras like custom cutting, tasting privileges, and knowledgeable advice.

Here are the rankings by price on selected types of cheeses:

	Big Ten	Kroger	Dunham-Wells	Arbor Farms
Port Salut	4.39	4.09	3.99	3.75
Danish bleu	3.89	3.99	3.10	3.14
Smoked cheddar	3.59	3.89	2.99	3.25
Provolone	2.98	2.89	2.60	2.85
Mozzarella	3.29	2.89	2.50	2.55
Munster	2.89	2.59	2.90	2.45
Gouda	3.59	3.79	3.40	3.45
Havarti	3.29	3.49	2.99	3.15
Gruyere	4.19	4.69	3.99	3.69
Jarlsberg	3.59	4.09	3.60	3.59
Fontina	3.19	3.59	2.99	3.25
Swiss	3.19	2.49	2.99	3.69
Edam	3.39	3.29	3.40	3.15

Arbor Farms offers about 50 varieties of cheese, pre-cut and shrink wrapped. A specialty is raw (i.e., unpasteurized) milk cheeses (thought by some to have more beneficial nutrients) and rennetless versions of traditional cheeses. Rennet is an animal product used in making most cheeses, and some strict vegetarians eschew it.

Big Ten carries over a hundred cheeses at a time, and many varieties are rotated, making for an even larger selection over a year's period. Its selection of German and Italian cheeses is especially strong, Wolf says.

Dunham-Wells carries about 75 varieties of cheese and is especially strong in French and English cheeses, offering some not seen elsewhere in town. The management seems to have a knack for picking particularly good examples of standard cheeses like cheddar and feta, according to Wolf.

Kroger stocks about 60 cheeses, but some are novelty items like low-cal and chocolate. Except for loss leaders, prices are consistently higher than at other cheese shops. Convenient for Kroger shoppers, but otherwise disappointing.

	Store	Average price per pound of 13 selected items
Best Deal	Dunham Wells	$3.19
Number 2	Arbor Farms	$3.23
Number 3	Big Ten	$3.50
Highest priced	Kroger	$3.52

Taking the mystery out of brand-name drugs

Personal care products and over-the-counter drugs may well have higher mark-ups than any other kind of products except cosmetics, due to the vast advertising budgets of the "Big Six" in the field — firms like Procter and Gamble and Alberto-Culver. It's well known that the mouthwash or common pain relievers you buy for over a dollar cost only pennies to produce. Yet it's easy to forget that the generic equivalents of heavily-advertised, brand-name products are easily available, often sitting on the same shelf, for a fraction of their cost.

Recently Dan Kaercher, pharmacist and owner of Lucky Drugs on Main Street, showed us a few examples on his shelves. *Bufferin* is his favorite. It's simply aspirin buffered with aluminum hydroxide. "In theory the buffering helps it dissolve faster," he says, " and it *may* not upset the stomach as much as ordinary aspirin." Bufferin costs $2.55 per hundred at his store; a hundred Republic-brand buffered aspirin cost a dollar.

But don't some pain relievers have special ingredients, we asked. Like *Anacin? Anacin,* it turns out, is aspirin with a little caffeine added. *Excedrin* is aspirin, caffeine, acetominophen and salicylamide. Both the latter are aspirin-like and *may* make the total drug more effective, but not necessarily. Now, caffeine is hardly an esoteric item. Besides being in coffee, tea, and cola drinks, it's available at the pharmacy counter without a prescription. 100 Lilly citrated caffeine tablets cost $1.50 at Lucky Drugs. Their brand-name equivalent, *No-Doz,* that stand-by of final exam period, costs $2.65 for 60 — making it cost three times as much as the generic.

What about *Sominex* and other soporifics, we wondered. "What they are is antihistamines," Kaercher said, "and whether that really does anything or just makes people feel better because they've taken something is anybody's guess. I don't carry the generic equivalent because I don't believe in the whole thing."

Within minutes other illusions about the uniqueness of other well-known brands had dissolved. *Maalox* for ulcers? It's magnesium aluminum hydroxide in suspension. 12 ounces of *Maalox* is $2.35; the equivalent Maldroxal is $1.49. *NyQuil?* It's no magic elixir. Its main ingredient is just acetomenophen (it goes under the brand name of Tylenol), which is like aspirin except that it doesn't relieve inflammation.

Your pharmacist can tell you whether a brand-name product you use has a cheaper equivalent — and that's a good reason to patronize a drugstore where the pharmacist is available for conversation rather than enclosed in a glass cage. By using generics and lesser-known brands, you can not only save money but you can feel good about supporting diversity in the highly centralized drug and personal care products industry. Small firms may make good products but be unable to afford the advertising that the Big Six lay out.

Cornrowing on a budget

Cornrowing — that traditional African braided hairstyle currently popularized by the over-publicized Bo Derek in *Ten* — needn't cost a fortune, according to Mary Ann Check, who wins $5 for her suggestion. Local beauty schools do it for $30 and under. Some prices: Preston's Beauty Academy, $7 (for short hair and no beads) to $15; State College of Beauty, $20- to $30; Omega Cosmetology Institute, $25 and up.

Other good deals in personal care products

For chapped lips and cold sores: CARMAX. It's made by little Carma Labs in Franklin, Wisconsin, and distributed regionally. Lucky Drugs started carrying it when transplanted Wisconsinians requested it. A salve, its main ingredients are menthol and camphor, and it has their distinctive piquant smell. It comes in a tiny jar, .25 ounces for 69 cents, which compares favorably with Chapstik (.15 ounces for the same price).

An inexpensive and effective deodorant: **TUSSY,** a name in cosmetics that may call up memories of first lipsticks and compacts for older readers, puts out a complete line of deodorants. 2 ounces of Tussy cream costs 79¢ compared to 1.5 ounces of Arrid cream for $1.69 at area discount drug stores like Mindell's, Arbor Drug, and Richardson's. At independent drug stores we checked, the price was never more than 89¢. We tried only the cream version of Tussy from a line that includes roll-ons and sprays. It worked just fine, and its scent of roses and vanilla faded quickly.

A gallon of mouthwash for $2.67

Readers will have noticed that dentists don't use expensive, heavily advertised mouthwash brands. They use concentrates. These are less widely distributed in town, but you can find them at the State Street Richardson's in the heart of the campus area Dentist Belt. Advertised brands like Listermint and Listerine were recently $1.79 and $1.59 respectively for 18 oz. at the A&P. The A&P house brands were much cheaper at 89¢ and 59¢ for 14 ounces. But Astring-o-sol, a widely used dentist's concentrate, costs $2.67 for 8 ounces and makes up into a GALLON of mouthwash! Just shake four or five drops into a quarter cup of water for a refreshing gargle and rinse. Odol is even more concentrated — three ounces make TWO gallons for only $2.44 (Richardson's price).

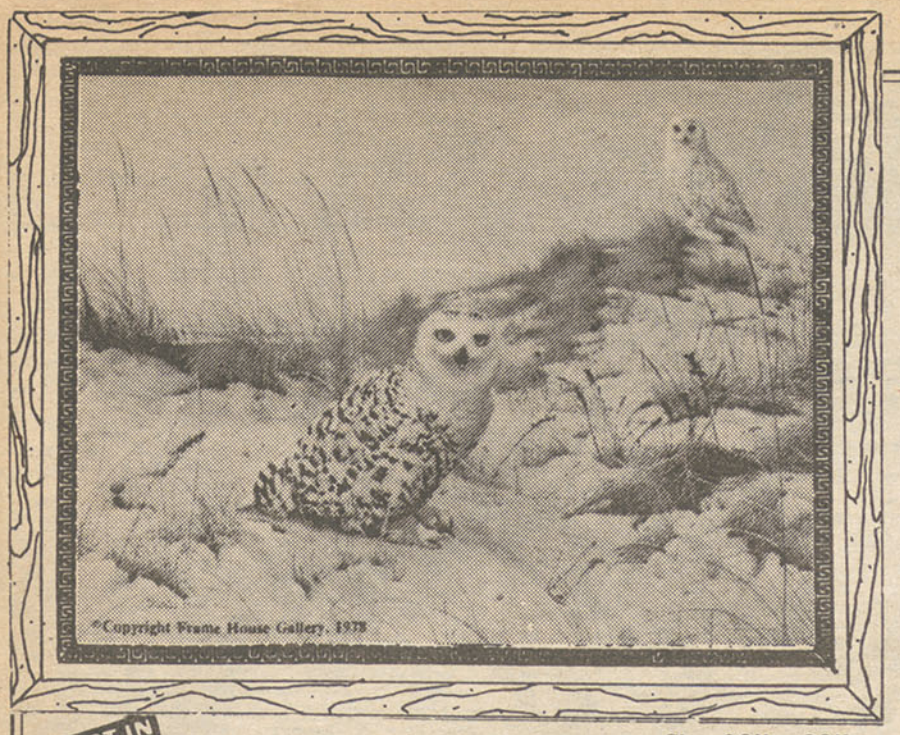
Why use Oil of Olay, when products recommended by dermatologists cost much less?

According to U-M dermatologist Grant Anholt, brand-name lotions and creams for the skin cost more because of the perfumes and fragrances added to them, as well as substantial advertising expenses. Neither creams nor lotions decrease wrinkling or aging of the skin, which is due to heredity and exposure to the sun. They do make the skin look and feel better by reducing itching and surface scale. (Creams and lotions differ only in the amount of water in them.) U-M dermatologists recommend Keri Lotion (used at the U-M Hospital) and Nutraderm as good skin lotions.

Oil of Olay	$4.99	6 fl. oz.	83¢ per oz.
Keri Lotion	$2.49	6.5 fl. oz.	39¢ per oz.
Nutraderm	$3.49	8 fl. oz.	44¢ per oz.

Win $5 — suggest a deal!

What are some good deals you know about? We'll pay $5 for each suggestion we accept. Write to "Good Deals," Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Include details on availablity, characteristics, and price of the proposed good deal in relation to similar products or services.



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We understand completely the limits modern life puts on regular exercise for you. That's one reason we thoroughly consider your own work/leisure patterns when we design your individualized exercise program. We build in your own goals and needs — weight reduction, cardiovascular endurance, improved vitality, a reduction in coronary risk factors. Together, through consultation, we'll work out a regular exercise program you can handle — with realistic goals you can attain — at an activity level that's safe and sensible.

Find out more about the services of The U of M's Fitness and Sports Research Lab. Just phone for complete information, 763-2462, Monday-Friday 9-12, 1-4. Better yet, visit the Lab in room 1040 on the lower level of the Central Campus Recreation Building at the corner of Washtenaw and Geddes. We'll be glad to talk with you, patiently and and privately. There's no obligation, of course . . . unless it's to your own good health and happiness.

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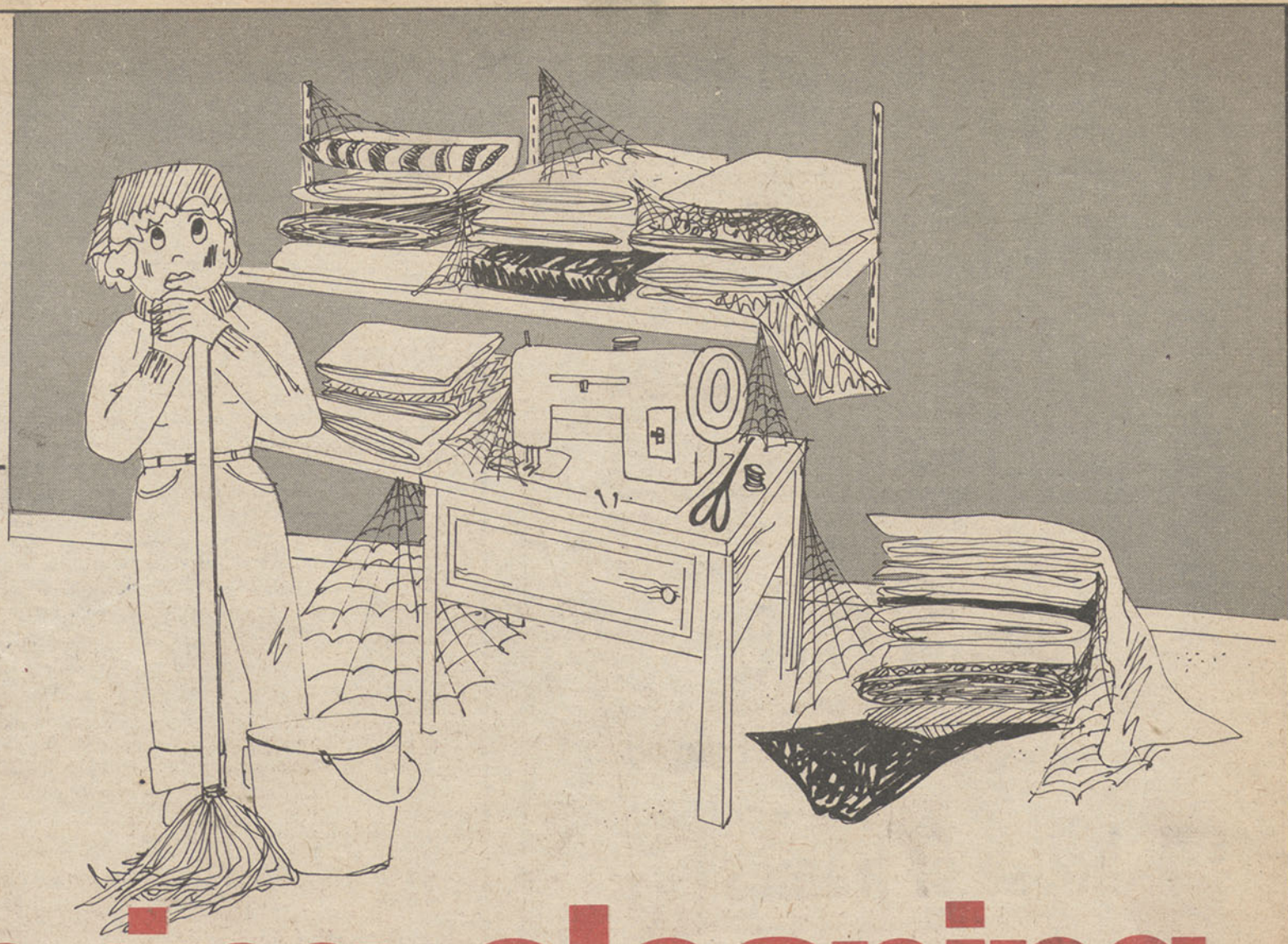

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